# ENGLANDVITUNGA Exclusive 24th JUNE, 1978 interview with Chelsea's giant defender Micky Droy, assisted by team-mate Steve Wicks, clears the ball under a challenge from Peter Withe of Nottingham Forest. **West Germany's** 'new' manager



The 11th World Cup Finals kicked-off on June 1st in Buenos Aires with a spectacular opening ceremony.

# AGIION



Above:The first game, between holders West Germany (white shirts) and Poland, was by contrast a dull 0-0 draw. Right: Walter Schachner shoots Austria in front against Spain in their Group Three game.



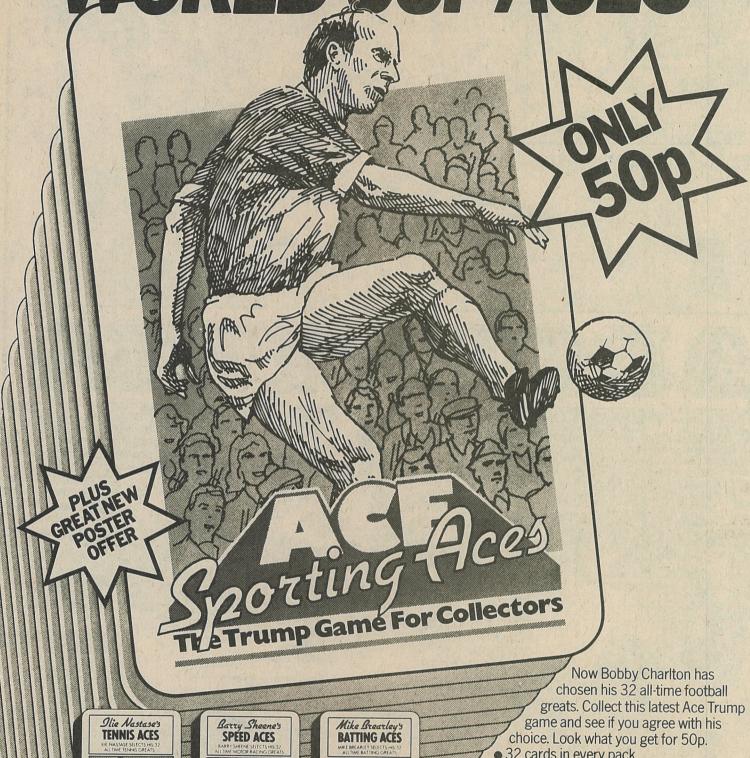




# ARGENTINA

Left: French Resper Bortrand-Demanes can do nothing to stop Italy's Paola Rossi (second right) equalising for Italy. The Italians won 2-1. Below: Sweden's Sjoburg (centre) nips in between two Brazilian delenders to score his country's goal in their 1-1 draw.

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This week's Star Letter comes from Mark Stephens of East Cramlington, Northumberland, who wins our special prize of £3. He writes:

### CHANGE OF STRIPS

SINCE first attending Newcastle United matches in the early 1960's, I've seen many changes in English football both on and off the field.

One change that is not exactly headline material is the number of visiting team changed strip. teams playing in

A tremendous amount of clubs (too numerous to mention) have adopted this style. The biggest culprits seem to be Leeds who nearly always play in yellow away from home.

I remember a few years back when teams visiting St. James' Park played in their proper, firstchoice strip.

• I feel sorry for the supporters. As the average fan knows, scarves, rosettes etc, are not cheap so it must be frustrating trying to keep with the different colour

### Not so bad

WAS surprised to read in my paper that Ron Greenwood said knocking high balls into the penalty-area is a bad habit of England.

Surely, hundreds of goals are scored this way in the League? At a time when English wingers seem to be making a comeback, it seems rather a strange remark. Also, if foreign goalkeepers have a weak-ness it is dealing with high crosses.

CHARLIE HOBHOUSE, ETON COLLEGE, WINDSOR.

 Ron Greenwood was referring to balls lobbed in from midfield and defence, not from the wings. There's a big difference, Charlie.

### Pen-Pal

M a 13-year-old English boy. I support Tottenham and I also collect stamps and programmes. I would like a pen-pal in New Zealand, Australia or Canada.

RUSSELL CHILD, 14 ROBERT BURNS HOUSE, NORTHUMBERLAND PARK, TOTTENHAM, **LONDON N.17** 

### Mighty Em

WHAT a great season it was for Emlyn Hughes! He won his 50th cap for England, completed 600 games for Liverpool and became the first player to captain his team in the European, F.A. and League Cup in 12 months. Emlyn has now led his team to more trophies than any other Englishman in soccer!

> C. SHAW, HOUGH GREEN.



• The Mighty Em (above) is a great professional who typifies the Liverpool and England spirit.

### Irish Boost

AM very pleased to see Peter Stewart is giving good cover-age to Irish soccer in his News Desk. Our football has improved tremendously in the past few sea-sons and I don't think our footbal-

lers are getting enough credit.
Also, hooliganism at matches here is virtually unheard of, and from what I've seen of English games on T.V., many matches here are far more exciting.

Northern Ireland plays a big part in producing players for the big English clubs — remember George Best?

> RODNEY McCREA, CO. ANTRIM.

Will we ever forget him? It's good to see the game prospering in Ireland and in this week's issue we feature a colour team-group of Northern Ireland Champions Linfield plus a Club Spotlight.

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO:

SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

£1 FOR EVERY LETTER PUBLISHED

### <u>Goalscorer</u>

Looking through a reference-book, I see that Peter Shilton is credited with a goal for Leicester. Did he take a penalty?

HENRIK FINNE, NORWAY



● Nothing so easy as that, Henrik. Shilton's (above) goal — against Southampton in a First Division game on 14th October, 1967 — came direct from hefty clearance from his area which beat everyone, and went straight into the net at the other end!

### **Ever-present**

Can you tell me who's made the most consecutive appearances in the Football League?

TIMOTHY VIALLS, NORFOLK

That record, Timothy, is held by former Tranmere Rovers' centre-half Harold Bell.

Harold Bell.
From the opening day of the 1946-47 season, he didn't miss a League game until he lost his place in the side at the end of August, 1955 — a magnificent total / of 401 Third Division (North) games without a break.
Another great run, of a player still around, is that of long-serving Swindon defender John Trollope.
He made 368 consecutive appearances for the club — 324 in the League, 25 in the F.A. Cup, and 19 in the League Cup — between April, 1961 and August, 1968. And it took a broken arm to stop him then!

### Quick off the mark

What was the quickest-ever goal in an F.A. Cup Final at Wembley?

STEVEN BIRD, LEEDS

Jackie Milburn takes that one, Steven

Jackie Milburn takes that one, Steven — he scored for Newcastle against Manchester City only 45 seconds after the kick-off of the 1955 Final.

Jim Roscamp also scored inside a minute for Blackburn against Huddersfield in the 1928 Final. Incidentally, in the 1895 Final, John Devey is credited with scoring the only goal of the game for Villa against West Bromwich in just 40 seconds — but that was played at the old Crystal Palace ground.

### Preston lost

Can you tell me how my favourite team, Preston, fared on the day I was born — 19th February, 1955?

CHERYL ARMSTRONG, PRESTON

● They were away at Portsmouth in a First Division game that day, Cheryl — and got beaten 2-0. At the end of the season, they finished up 14th in the table to Portsmouth's third place.

### Gordon Lee

As an Everton fan, I'd like to know how many League clubs our manager, Gor-don Lee, has been in charge of?

J. CAREY, MERSEYSIDE

● Everton is his fourth. Gordon Lee kicked-off his managerial career with Port Vale in 1968, moving to Blackburn in 1973. From there, it was on to Newcastle in 1975 — and, of course, to Everton last year.

### Worcester

I'm told that some years ago my local team, Worcester City, beat Liverpool. Is this really true?

JAMES THOMAS, WORCESTER

● Sure is, James — in a Third Round F.A. Cup-tie in January, 1959. The gallant Southern League giantkillers beat Liverpool 2-1 — but, alas for them, went down 0-2 to Sheffield United in the next round.

- Rangers were founded in 1873;
   Celtic in 1888. Queen's Park (1867) is
   the oldest Scottish League club. (LUIGI COLETTA, Enfield)
- Peter Simpson joined Arsenal straight from school, and made his League debut in 1963.

(PATRICK GLEESON, Eire)

 Manchester United have appeared in seven F.A. Cup Finals; Leeds in four — but never against each other. (PETER GILSENAN, Eire)

● Stoke won the League Cup in 1972; they have never won the League or the F.A. Cup.

(GARY MASSEY, Stoke)

Our Expert would like to point out that although all letters are read, he can only reply to published questions because of shortage of time.

.......



and between 1953 and 1960 played for Fortuna. I went to Switzerland in 1960 as a player-manager and returned to Germany in 1963 to become manager of FC Saarbruc-ken who are now in the Bundesliga. After that I became regional F.A. coach for the Saar and since 1969 have worked for the German F.A., first as selector-manager of the Amateur team, then after a spell looking after the B team I became assistant-manager to Helmut Schöen.

SHOOT: The German national team appears to have developed a new style since the 1966 World Cup Final.

DERWALL: In 1966 the German team was physically strong, full of running and fighting for every ball, they played with determination. But since then the players have been encouraged to play more with the ball in training, to become more skilful. This approach developed players like Franz Beckenbauer, Gerd Müller, Günter Netzer and Wolfgang Overath to name just a few, and all were world-

SHOOT: The West German teammanager has regular meetings with all the coaches of the Bundes-liga clubs, but does he really have any influence over the way they

work in training to produce the type of player he wants for the national team? What part does the Cologne Sports School play in

**DERWALL:** We cannot force any club coaches to work the way we want, no more than Ron Greenwood in England, or anyone else in another country can force his will on the clubs. All the Bundesliga coaches have to qualify at the Cologne Sports School, and for example, at the moment both Helmut Schöen and myself work two or three times a year at the school. We not only act as instructors or teachers at various courses for coaches, but also are amongst the examiners for the A licence, so in this way we can influence the coach's way of thinking and their approach to the game.

SHOOT: How do you think you can overcome the losses of great players?

DERWALL: These problems always exist in football. I remember when Uwe Seeler retired, everyone cried "how can we do without him?" Then quite soon afterwards the same people were saying "Gerd Müller is a gift from heaven." When Beckenbauer retires another player will come. retires another player will come.

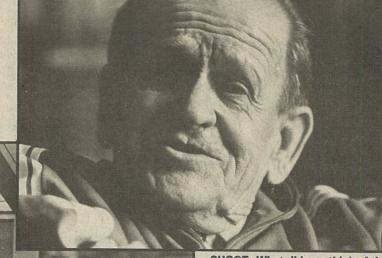
With and without players like Müller, Beckenbauer and Netzer we have always tried to adapt our team to the skills of the players available and we will continue to do so. We already have such artists though they do not play in the same positions as the stars mentioned and we will find a new team without them. But we shall continue to play the new style football based on skill, technique and intelligence.

SHOOT: Was the formation of the Bundesliga in 1963 an event of real importance in the development of German Football? It is after all only a national First Division, but many people think of it as a Super League.

**DERWALL: The Bundesliga had the** effect of concentrating the best players and the best clubs of the time into one competition, whereas before, the talent had been spread over 100 clubs or more. The success of our national team since 1963, in the World Cup

and European Championship suggests there has been an improvement and since that time our top clubs have played a more important part in the European Cup. Apart from Bayern Münich, who won the trophy three times in succession, German teams have reached the European Cup Semi-Finals almost every year since

SHOOT: Are England still the best team in Britain in spite of Scotland qualifying for the last two World Cups? And what do you think are the problems for England and how they can be overcome?



SHOOT: What did you think of the 1974 World Cup?

DERWALL: I don't think the 1974 World Cup brought out anything that was really new, but certainly Holland were good enough to take the title. In my opinion they made the great mistake of thinking themselves to be the favourites and this helped West Germany and made our task that much easier.

SHOOT: From your experience do you think West Germany choose or prepare their team better than other countries — better than England for example?

DERWALL: I would not like to comment on the selection of the England team but I will say in Germany we start by watching all the best players very carefully with regard to their particular skills and their style of play. Then by experimenting, choosing them to play for the national team, we try to find players that will make the best partners for those around them, those who play together best. So far we have had most success by using two blocks of players from Bayern Münich and Borussia Mönchengladbach.

SHOOT: The late Sepp Herberger has been described as the father of football in West Germany. What have your contacts been with him?

DERWALL: I played for Germany twice when Sepp Herberger was the manager of the national team, but undoubtedly his influence is great even today. He led West Germany to success in the 1954 World Cup and they have been one my best to maintain their great traditions and try to justify myself as Helmut Schöen's successor.



TOP OF PAGE . . . The late Sepp Herberger guided Germany to success in the 1954 World Cup

ABOVE . . . Helmut Schöen

(left) the man Derwall (right) replaces after the present World

Cup Finals.
LEFT . . . Former West Germany captain Franz Beckenbauer.

**DERWALL: I still think England are** the best of the four British teams, but I regret I do not know enough about the English game to offer any advice. I only know one must recognise things go in cycles, and it is the same for everyone, Brazil, Germany, Holland, everyone. England now seems to be in a deep valley but they will have a strong team again one day.

SHOOT: It seems English managers and coaches very rarely see anything of foreign teams except when they play against them, or as the national manager does, going to see England's future opponents. Do you think our League bosses should see more of continental football?

**DERWALL:** It is not practical to fly from one city to another watching different teams all the time, but I saw the England v Italy game myself in the autumn. Also if, for example, Spain played Holland I would try to go there. If it is possible we should see all the top teams, all the big games to see what is new, what other countries have to offer in football. We must learn every day and so we must see more than just the opponents of our own team.

### 'Why I'm joining a Belgian club'

### Poland goalkeeper, JAN TOMASZEWSKI

Jan has signed for Belgian club Beerschot. He will join them after the World Cup Finals. Here, the 30-year-old star talks about his present . . . and future.

SHOOT: You're now accepted as one of the top goalkeepers in the world. What does it take to be a good 'keeper?

TOMASZEWSKI: He should be tall TOMASZEWSKI: He should be tall and strong, a sort of leader figure. He must also be able to organise his defence quickly and efficiently as the goalkeeper, more than any other player, is in a position to see what is needed at that particular time. Reflexes are very important, because every save must be timed perfectly. The MOST important factor, though, is training.

SHOOT: Is it fair to say the overall standard of goalkeeping in Europe isn't, perhaps, as high as it used to

be?
TOMASZEWSKI: Yes, that probably is true, and the reason isn't difficult to explain. Quite simply, there isn't enough specialised training for goalkeepers. Most coaches don't take 'keepers as seriously as outfield players. There are very few "specialist-trainers" from whom goalkeepers can learn. Training is very, very important for a goalie, as I said before, and it's understandable there is some sort of crisis.
SHOOT: How long do you think

SHOOT: How long do you think you can go on playing?

TOMASZEWSKI: You can compare a goalkeeper with good wine: the older he gets the better he is! Just look at Sepp Maier of West Germany. Lev Yashin, the wonderful Russian, was still world-class when

Wroclaw. At the age of 15 I was playing in the Polish Third Division and at 19 I signed for Slask Wroclaw. I stayed there for two seasons before moving on to Legia Warsaw. When I was 24, I went to Lodz and I've been with LKS ever since. In April of this year I signed a three-year contract with Beerschot.

SHOOT: Why are you going to play

TOMASZEWSKI: Belgian club football is very healthy — remember, they had two European Finalists last season (Anderlecht and FC Bruges). My good friend from the national team Wlodek Lubanski has been in Belgium with Lokeren for a few years and has told me a lot about their way of life and how friendly the Flemish people are.

SHOOT: There are a lot of foreign

stars in the Belgian League. Do you feel guilty about taking the place of a Belgian player?
TOMASZEWSKI: I believe Belgian youngsters can learn a lot from the likes of Rensenbrink and Lubanski. I also hope to make an impression in this respect.

SHOOT: Have you thought beyond your playing days?

TOMASZEWSKI: My immediate ambitions are to help Poland become World Champions and to help Beerschot gain a place in Europe. When I retire, I hope to become a coach or trainer.





NE of the fascinating things about football is there's always at least one talking point. There are so many facets of the game for people to discuss, argue about and seek information on.

My postbag is filled mainly with

letters asking me questions. Unfortunately, I can't answer them all, simply through lack of time, so every now and again I sort out a representative selection for my column.

First one off the pile is from Martin Redfern of Nottingham, who says: "I think it's unfair to the rest of the team when a certain national newspaper makes an award of £10,000 to a striker who gets 30 League goals in the season. Football is a collective effort, and everyone plays his part in the goalscoring. Even the goalkeeper, as you do at Liverpool with your long, defenceworrying kicks. In fact, to counterbalance an award for goalscoring, perhaps someone should introduce

one for goal-stopping!"

To deal with your last point first,
Martin, preventing goals being
scored is also a combined operation, too. My defence help me tremendously, sometimes clearing off the line when I've failed to gather or punch away the ball.

Like when I skied a cross behind me during our last away League match, against West Ham, and our right-back Phil Neal prevented the

Football is all about scoring goals, and anything that provides an incentive should be encouraged. I'm sure you wouldn't like to see

too many nil-nil draws around.
I was delighted for Bob Latchford of Everton when he became the first player to win the Daily Express/Adidas award by just hitting the magic 30 in their final League match, at home at Goodison Park, against luckless Chelsea.

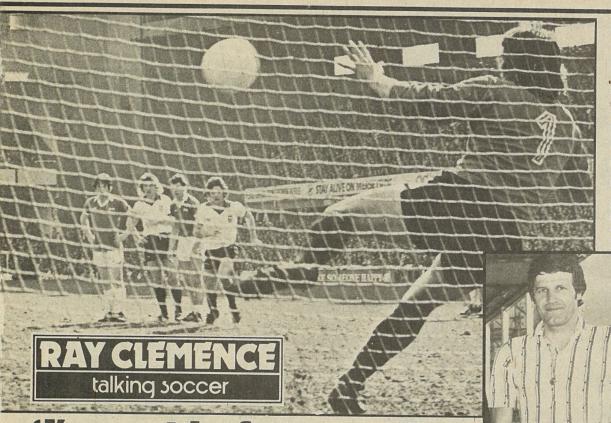
Bob would be the first to admit he owed his feat to a team effort. Goal number 30, for instance, was struck from a penalty spot and he was given the spot-kicking job to help him in his bid for the award.

He's not normally the penaltytaker. Duncan McKenzie, Trevor Ross and Andy King are, I believe, preferred to him in usual circumstances.

Bob also has a special debt to winger Dave Thomas, whose pinpoint crosses into the eight-yard box tear defences apart.

It's significant that on the occasions Dave wasn't able to play, Bob struggled to score.

As for the £10,000, Bob won't hog that to himself, but share it amongst his team-mates by putting it into the Everton "pool".



# 'I'm not in favour of an AWARD FOR GOAL-STORDING

Reader John Hamson, who tells me he's a goalkeeper, too, and hails from Preston, wants to know how many penalties were awarded against Liverpool last season, and whether I managed to save any of them.

I can't recall the exact number, John, and I can't check with our statistician at the club because he's away on holiday, but I think it's either four or five.

I did manage to stop one going into the net, without even touching the ball. I used kidology!

We were playing Bristol City, away at Ashton Gate. Peter Cormack was their penalty-taker. Now Peter is a former Liverpool teammate, and we played and trained together for years.

So as he picked up the ball and took it to the spot, I grinned at him and said: "Remember training,

For whenever he practised penalty-kicking against me he always aimed for the same place: in the top corner to his right.

corner to his right.

From the rueful look on his face he could tell I'd noted his particular preference.

As he ran up, I just kept grinning at him and leaning slightly to my left.

It was enough to unsettle him. For in trying to ensure I didn't get a

touch, he drove the ball just too high, and instead of slotting into the top corner, it sailed over the bar! If Pete had scored, it would have

lf Pete had scored, it would have been the match-winning goal. As it was, thanks to my "conmanship" we drew 1-1 and came away with a precious point.

"How many players were transferred in — and out — of Liverpool last season?" asks Mary Nicholls of Barking, London, who likes to keep records of Liverpool. Perhaps I should have consulted you about the penalties, Mary?

### Marvellous

Two to other League clubs, Mary, if my memory serves me correctly. For one, Alan Waddle, things did not go well, but for the other, John Toshack, he's had a marvellous new lease of life.

Alan went to Leicester City, who unfortunately have been relegated after a nightmare season.

But I hear that, by a strange twist of fate, Tosh made a bid of £25,000 for Alan's services, so he'll be playing for a promoted team, Swansea, in the Third Division next term.

John Toshack has had a dream start to his career in management. As player-manager, one of the few around nowadays, he has met with success at his very first attempt.

Tosh was one of the finest servants Liverpool have ever had, always giving of his considerable best, and great company off the field.

Two other players, Kevin Kewley and Peter McDonnell, have left to try their fortunes at soccer in the United States.

Incomers have been Kenny Dalglish, the only possible replacement for Kevin Keegan; Steve Ogrozovic, a 'keeper from Chesterfield, who stood in for me for two games when I was side-lined with a thigh injury; Graeme Souness, from Middlesbrough, who has strengthened our midfield; and three lads from Irish club Dundalk.

I suspect the reason we've recruited from the Republic of Ireland is simply because our scouts have been unable to find the right sort of talent at the right prices in our lower Divisions, as they have done in the past.

Remember, both Kevin Keegan and I came from Scunthorpe United for low five-figure fees

for low, five-figure fees.

The three lads from the Republic cost only a combined fee of £55,000. If just one of them becomes a regular first-teamer — and I hope they all do — the money will have been well-spent.

Many readers seem keen to know what other sports I play. Stephen

Morris, of Barnstaple, North Devon, goes a step further and asks if I have won any trophies at them.

Well, nothing comparable with those I've collected playing at the highest level in football, Stephen, but I've had some success at my two other sports: badminton and golf.

I've a couple of trophies for knocking the shuttlecock around, but I've had to give the game a miss for almost a year due to our heavy programme of football matches and my increasing outside commitments.

At golf I've also earned some silverware, in pro.-am. tournaments mainly, but I've seldom laid hands on my clubs lately for the same reasons.

John Toshack
has had a
dream start
to his
career in
management'

This summer, though, I plan to spend as much time as I can getting my handicap down.

It's not true my handicap is simply I have no talent!

"What were the biggest attendances at Anfield — and away from there — last season?" enquires David Garner of Littlehampton, in Sussex by the

It's amazing how SHOOT readers are hungry for statistics!

Well, we had two full houses at home, around 54,000 — against Everton, when we drew 0-0, and against Borussia Monchengladbach, whom we beat 3-0 in the Semi-Final second-leg of the European Cup.

Biggest away gates in the Football League were v. Man. United, around 56,000, and in the return game of our local derby with Everton, at Goodison, with 54,000 fans present.

In our campaign in Europe all the gates were either capacity ones, or near-capacity.

In Dusseldorf, for the first-leg of the European Cup Semi, all seats were sold. I think the figure was 60,000.

In the previous round, against Benfica, their Stadium of Light was packed, and there may have been more fans there than in Dusseldorf.

Join me again next week when I'll be writing about the influences — good and bad — that TV has had on the game.

Lay Memories



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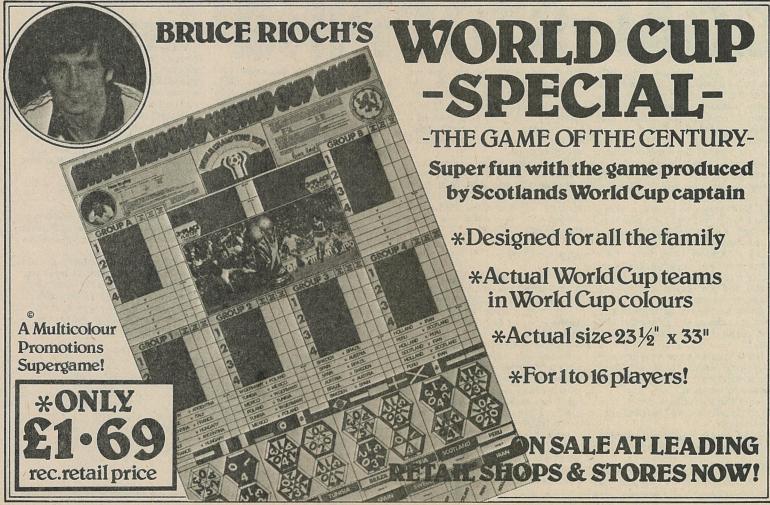
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Compiled by **Eddie McKee** 

LINFIELD's Irish League and F.A. Cup "double" in 1977-78 — The Blues and Northern Ireland's first since 1961-62 — was achieved in the most emphatic manner possible, with 19 wins, two draws and a solitary defeat in 22 Championship games, and, on their way to a 3-1 Cup Final win over Ballymena United, the Windsor Park outfit ousted Coleraine, Glentoran and Portadown.

All round, a great campaign for Linfield and a year of triumph for player-boss Roy Coyle, for, in addition to their League and Cup "double", The Blues also won the Ulster Cup, suffering only one defeat in the 11-game, League-style competition.

And, to cap a wonderful year for the Belfast club, their second string, "The Swifts", topped Section Two of the Irish "B" Division and won the George Wilson Cup to complete a fine duo in intermediate football.



Player-manager Roy Coyle.

### FACTS AND FIGURES

Founded: 1886. League Career: Founder Members Irish League, 1890. Ground: Windsor Park, Belfast. Colours: Blue Shirts,

Shorts, Red Stockings Top Seasonal Scorer: Joe Bambrick, 94, 1929-30.

Souvenir Shop: c/o Windsor Park, Belfast.

Billy Hamilton (above) the striker who joined Q.P.R. at the end of last

term. (Left) Skipper Peter Rafferty.

### Top Scorers In Past Five Seasons

1973-74P. Malone	(32)
1974-75P. Malone	(26)
1975-76M. Malone	(21)
1976-77R. Bell	(23)
1977-78J. Martin	(29)

former Northern Ireland Schoolboy cap, he also won 9 Youth caps and captained his country at this level. One of Linfield's top products in recent seasons. Age 18. Born Ballymena. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 11.8. 1977-78 L. App:— 16.

**BILLY HAMILTON: Ace striker who** hit 17 senior goals last term. End-of-season move to Q.P.R. produced club record fee of £40,000. Earned first full Irish cap as sub. v. Scotland, on May 13, only a fortnight after leaving Windsor Park. Also an Under-21 cap. Age 20. Born East Belfast. Ht. 6.2½. Wt. 12.0. 1977-78 L. App: - 20.

TERRY HAYES: Talented defender or midfielder and another brilliant

### Linfield product. Joined Luton Town in £30,000 deal, in March, 1978, after 15 consecutive '77-78 League appearances for The Blues, who still awarded him a Championship medal. An Irish Under-21 cap, and also gained 8 Youth honours. Age 18. Born East Belfast. Ht. 5.7½. Wt.

CYRIL HEWITT: Skilful midfieldercum-striker who joined Linfield from Middlesbrough, in 1976. Age 23. Born Newtownabbey. Ht. 5.7. Wt. 10.7. 1977-78 L. App:— 17.

JOHNNY JAMISON: Inside-forward Town, in May, 1978. Began senior career with Bangor, with whom he gained Northern Ireland Youth honours. Age 20. Born Belfast. Ht. 5.10. Wt. 10.51/2.

PAUL KIRK: Striker signed from Bangor, in May, 1978. Also had spells with Crusaders, with whom he won Irish League medal, in 1976, Ballymena United and Glentoran. Age 25. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 12.0.

JIM MARTIN: Freescoring striker signed from Ballymena United, in 1976-77. Top club scorer in '77-78 with 29 goals, including 17 in League Championship. Nominated "Ulster Footballer of the Year" and Northern Ireland Football Writers" Northern Ireland Football Writers' "Player of the Year" in 1978. Age 30. Born East Belfast. Ht. 5.6½. Wt. 10.3. 1977-78 L. App:— 22.

**BILLY MURRAY: Brilliant striker and** deadly finisher signed from Porta-down last term. Hit 13 senior goals in first campaign at Windsor and gained Under-21 recognition for Northern Ireland v. Eire, in March, 78. Age 21. Born East Belfast. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 11.0. 1977-78 L. App:— 19.

DAVID NIXON: Industrious midfielder/striker whose father and grandfather also played in successful Linfield teams. Age 24. Born West Belfast. Ht. 5.6. Wt. 10.4. 1977-78 L. App: - 20.

FRANKIE PARKS: Yet another homegrown Blueman and skilful back-four player. Regained senior berth following departure of Terry Hayes to Luton Town. Age 22. Born Bel-fast. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 11.7. 1977-78 L.

PETER RAFFERTY: Club captain and consistent central defender signed from Distillery, in 1973. Won Irish Cup medal with latter outfit, in 1971, and has gained every domes-tic honour in Ulster soccer. Ulster Footballer of the Year in 1977. Age 29. Born Belfast. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 12.4. 1977-78 L. App:— 18.

GLEN THOMPSON: Promising central defender who may soon be challenging for a regular senior spot with Linfield. Age 20. Born Bangor. Ht. 6.0. Wt. 11.0. 1977-78 L. App:—

1977-78 F						
	P	W	D	L	F	A P
Fiat Irish League	22	19	2	1	65	22 40
Irish F.A. Cup		4	0	0	11	6 —
Ulster Cup	11	8	2	1	24	9 18
Hennessy Gold Cup	5	1	3	1	9	6 5
Co. Antrim Shield	3	2	0	1	6	3 -
*Tyler All-Ireland Cup						5 —
~ I yier All-Ireland Cup						51 —

Trophy Record	
Irish League Championship	31
Irish F.A. Cup	. 31
Ulster Cup	.11
Hennessy Gold Cup	. 22
City Cup	
Co. Antrim Shield	31
Blaxnit (All-Ireland) Cup	
North-South (All-Ireland) Cup.	al.
Top Four Cup	2
NEW YORK OF THE SECRETARY AND AND ASSESSED ASSESSED AND ASSESSED.	0.00

LEAGUE RESULTS 1977-78										
Opponents	Score	Venue								
Larne	1-0	Н	Larne	2-1	A					
Crusaders		A	Crusaders	3-1	H					
Ards		Н	Ards	1-0	A					
Glenavon		A	Glenavon	4-2	H					
Coleraine	4-2	Н	Coleraine	4-0	A					
Glentoran		A	Glentoran	1-2	H					
Ballymena U	3-0	A	Ballymena U	2-1	Н					
Cliftonville	3-0	Н	Cliftonville	3-1	A					
Bangor	1-1	A	Bangor	2-0	H					
Portadown	2-2	н	Portadown	2-1	A					
Distillery	4-1	A	Distillery	7-1	H					

### **PEN-PICTURES**

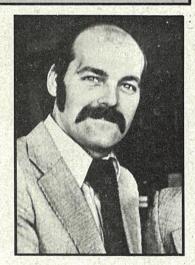
KEN BARCLAY: Tall, commanding goalkeeper who progressed through club's junior teams. Has won every major domestic honour in Ulster soccer with Linfield. Age 28. Born Whitehead, Co. Antrim. Ht. 6.4. Wt. 13.7. 1977-78 L. App: 22.

**RONNIE BELL: Opportunist striker** who hit 23 senior goals in 1976-77, but failed to command a regular first-team spot last term. Age 25. Born Rathfriland. Ht. 5.11. Wt. 10.12. 1977-78 L. App:- 2

ERIC BOWYER: Long-serving defender and great club man, his senior outings in the past two seasons have been restricted by injury. Capped by Northern Ireland at Youth, Junior and Amateur level. Age 30. Born Dunmurry. Ht. 5.10. Wt. 11.5. 1977-78. L. App:— 2.

ROY COYLE: Player-manager signed from Grimsby Town, in 1975. One of Ulster's top defenders and Northern Ireland's "Manager of the Year" in 1978. A former Irish Amateur cap, he also appeared five times for Northern Ireland at senior level. Age 32. Born Belfast. Ht. 5.8. Wt. 11.0. 1977-78 L. App:— 22.

PETER DORMAN: Stylish midfielder who had brief spell with Sheffield United, in 1976-77, but returned home to continue Law studies. A former Northern Ireland Youth cap, his skill and class may soon earn



him full international recognition. Age 24. Born Bangor. Ht. 6.2. Wt. 12.7. 1977-78 L. App:— 21.

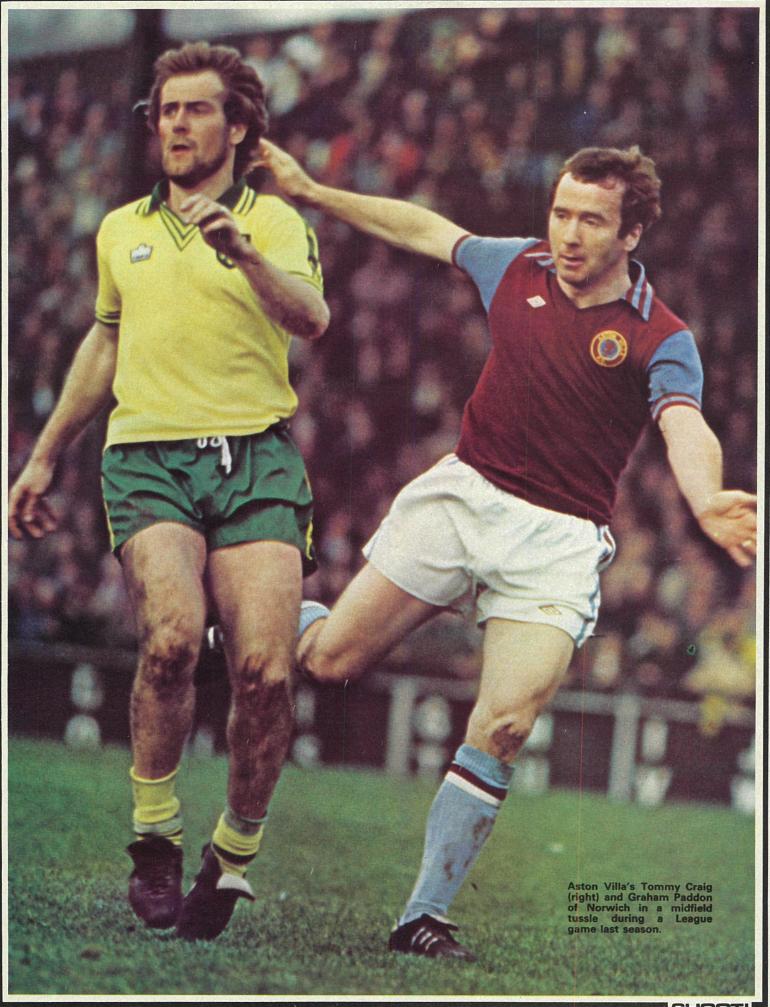
ALAN FRASER: Outstanding defender who first made an impact with Linfield when only 17. One of Ulster's most accomplished players. Benefit term in 1977-78. Capped at Schoolboy, Youth and Inter-League level for Northern Ireland. Age 25. Born Dromore. Ht. 5.9. Wt. 10.9. 1977-78 L. App:— 22.

JOHN GARRETT: Equally talented in defence, midfield or attack.

Northern Ireland Double winners

ft to right): Cyril Hewitt, Billy FRONT ROW: Ken Barclay, Fra Rafferty, Martin Malone, John Martin, Roy Coyle (player-m azer, Terry Kock. SHOOT

1



SHOOT!

### **Hearts' Dave McNicoll**

Told he'd never play again ... helped his club win promotion

HEARTS' rugged back-four organiser Dave McNicoll sipped his champagne and celebrated along with the rest of his Tynecastle colleagues after promotion to the Premier League had been clinched with a 1-0 victory over stubborn Arbroath at Gayfield. It was a time to celebrate, but

McNicoll had more reason than most to bask in the glory and enjoy himself. It wasn't that long ago, after all, that he had been told he would never play again!

"Every game could be my last," says McNicoll. "Injuries have iinxed me throughout my career, but I'm used to them now. Specialists have told me that injuries could still put an end to my playing, but I try to stick that sort of thing to the back of my mind and just concentrate on the game." McNicoll's courage is almost

overwhelming. He was allowed to leave Dunfermline because they thought he would never be fit enough again for first class soccer. That was a blow to McNicoll, who had promised so much as a teenager. In fact, he was so impressive after his initial breakthrough that the Fifers appointed him skipper before he was 20!

His no-nonsense tackling was a feature of his play and injury was never far away from a player who likes to go where the brave go in search of the ball.

Dunfermline dropped out of the spotlight. When he made the newspapers it was almost always to notch up another injury. Times were bad. He was with Montrose when

they played Hearts in their epic

changed despite the injury fears. He still won more balls than he lost and Tynecastle fans must have been delighted last season when he eventually signed for their favourites. No doubt they would prefer to have such a player with them rather than against them!

"I didn't think buying Dave was a gamble," says manager Willie Ormond, who has clearly been impressed with his purchase. "He had proved himself and he had the experience I thought my side needed. He is still young, but he has seen a lot of action. He will be invaluable to us in the Premier

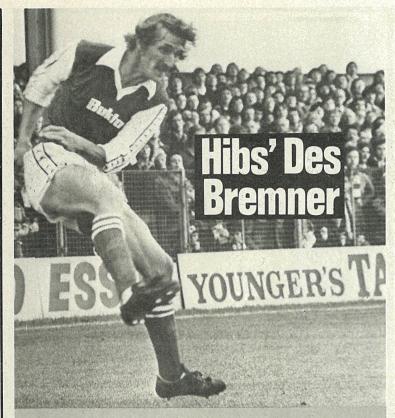
The return to the Top Ten is a dream come true for McNicoll. He says simply: "I'm really looking forward to it. It will be great to be playing against the likes of Rangers and Celtic again. The atmosphere in these games is marvellous."

While McNicoll is performing in the Premier League, Dunfermline, the club who allowed him to move on, will be in the almost forgotten Second Division.

Changed days indeed. For both







### Helped pip Celtic for a place in the U.E.F.A. cup

national soccer four years ago after the infamous Copenhagen Nightclub Affair a lot of people asked: "Where will we get another Bremner?'

Hibs fans had the answer. They pointed to their own midfield and the lean figure of one of their stars: Des Bremner!

That was four years ago and a lot has happened since then. For a start, the "life" ban on Billy Bremner and four other Scots, Joe Harper, Arthur Graham, Pat McCluskey and Willie Young, has been lifted . . . and Des Bremner has slipped out of the international Pat

reckoning.

He couldn't even find a place in the midfield of Ally MacLeod's World Cup 40. Bremner had a start on players such as Neil McNab (Spurs), Roy Aitken (Celtic), Tony Fitzpatrick (St. Mirren), John Wark (Ipswich) and Graeme Payne (Dundee United), but all of these players made the pool of 40 although, of course, none was actually included in the travelling squad of

Ironically, Bremner looked like the ideal replacement for the battling Billy in Scotland's engine room. The night before the full team played Denmark in the European Championship in Copenhagen, the Scottish Under-23 team, managed by Celtic's Jock Stein, played their Danish counterparts.

The Scots won 1-0 . . . and the only goal of that game was scored by Des Bremner! The timing was quite superb. As one Bremner was on the way out, another looked to

be on the way in.
Partick Thistle's Bobby Houston
remembers that match in

WHEN Billy Bremner was sento the Hibs player: "I was a rival for sationally banned from interione of the midfield berths, but, at the same time, I just had to admire the talent of Des.

"He's a real worker in the middle of that park. He'll run all day for club and country and he was very impressive. It was fitting he should get the matchwinner. No-one deserved it more.

"And what a goal it was, too. A real gem. Des caught it just right and no goalkeeper on earth could have kept it out."

Bremner, after a bright start to the international scene, has faded quite alarmingly, but things were getting brighter coming to the close of last season.

He was playing with zest and fire again. He was buzzing, Hibs were going well and they pipped Celtic for a place in the U.E.F.A. Cup. Now the new season can't come quick enough for the industrious

Des.

"At one point last term we were says." fighting relegation," he says.
"Europe wasn't even on our minds. Survival, it seemed, was the main priority and we put some victories together.

Our form picked up, we didn't lose too many games and that's the reason we will be in the U.E.F.A. Cup next season. And we are all looking forward to it immensely."

Bremner, like every true Scot, enjoys wearing the dark blue jersey of his country. His interna-tional appearances have been brief, but now Hibs seem to have a settled side, Bremner could prove again that he is good enough for a place in the Scottish midfield.

He has a lot of competition, but that's the way Bremner likes it. He in could yet earn the mantle that was Copenhagen and pays this tribute worn so proudly by his namesake.

nents.

"has been

FROM the richly talented football world of Molineux comes this message for Ron Greenwood, Don Howe and Bobby Robson: "Pick my players for your England teams and you won't be disappointed."

The speaker is Wolves' effervescent boss, Sammy Chung, who also proclaims: "In two years time we'll have a super team here at

Wolverhampton."
More about that as the story unfolds. Meanwhile, how did Sammy Chung cope with the rigours of First Division football and the pressures of fighting relegation in his first season after win-

Two?
"I realised before the season started the First Division would be a different kettle of fish," he told

'We started off on the right note with good results against Bristol City, Q.P.R. and Arsenal. This gave us the chance to play with our feet on the ground and to play with a certain amount of confidence. I also knew somewhere along the line there would be a transitional period with regard to my bringing

in young players.
"I had one or two of the older heads who, owing to contract disputes, asked to be placed on the transfer list. Gary Pierce wanted to move on, but I didn't want him to leave. Happily, he's now settled his differences and is staying with the club, which is a blessing for me.

"Alan Sunderland joined Arsenal and again I didn't want to release

"Then I sold Munro, Kindon and Bobby Gould. I was forced to prune the older wood in order to make way for the forest of youngsters coming through the ranks. I

needed to view their potential.
"People said, 'Why didn't you look at them the season before

# WOLVESFOR ENGLAND'

### claims manager Sammy Ch



when Wolves were in the Second Division?' But the priority at that time was to get the club into the First Division, and then consolidate our position. The fact we stayed up was a credit to the

players.
"I would like to buy a couple of men for next season, but I'm finding it very difficult, as indeed are most other managers.

The most frustrating part of last season was we really didn't produce the goods at home. We produce the goods at nome. We put it together beautifully against Aston Villa at the end to save ourselves and send West Ham down, but in the earlier part of the term, especially before Christmas, it was very disappointing. We played our best football away and not in front of our own fans.

"But I am quietly pleased with the progress made. We're still in the First Division and one of the best attacking teams in the country. On our day we can beat anybody. But, as a manager, I must search for perfection; always look for improvement.

"It's been a transitional period for Wolves. I pushed a cluster of

youngsters into the first team. Maurice Daly, John Black, Mel Eves, Norman Bell, George Berry, Bob Hazell and Colin Brazier. They're all under 21. There's also Martin Patching. What a player he is. If I can field a team that has a nice blend of youth and experience
— and we've plenty of that at
Molineux — then i think in the next two years this club can blossom and flourish at the top of the tree. Mind you, it has got to be handled in the right way."

Wolves played seven or eight homespun players in almost every one of their matches last term, so

obviously Sammy Chung believes in producing his own teams, rather than spending a fortune on new

players.
"The thing is," he explains, "we haven't got the cash flowing in through the gates. We don't pack in 40,000 or 50,000 as some clubs do and there's always been a tradition at Molineux to make and produce our own players.

"The only one I've bought is Paul Bradshaw, the 'keeper. He cost £150,000 from Blackburn early last season. But what a buy! He's the best young goalkeeper in the country without a shadow of a

"And don't forget Bob Hazell. Surely an England centre-half of

the future.



"Then there's Steve Daley, Geoff Palmer and Kenny Hibbitt — they deserve a run-out with the England 'B' team along with John Richards, who was chosen to go on their summer tour."

Sammy Chung is a person who

always talks about the good things in football. He never knocks the

game or anyone in it.

game or anyone in it.
"I think it's all about being happy and enjoying your work," he says. "There are going to be times when you lose; there are no two ways about it. If people can accept losing in the same manner at the same manner than the as they accept winning, then the game will change.

"There's a whole new pattern emerging, anyway. There are people who want to attack and go forward. Brian Clough's Forest won the Championship by attacking. Wolves don't defend, nor do Man. United or Derby. There are lots of clubs all eager to turn on

the attacking style.
"Enthusiasm is what I look for from my players — people who want to play football. Obviously, the youngsters have got skill when they reach the club. When they get that far it's the longing, the yearning to go out, play and enjoy it."



### OUR WEEK-BY-WEEK ACCOUNT OF THE

Week Ending JANUARY 7th . . . |

### £350,000 FOR JOE

BANK HOLIDAY — and a full football programme — kicks-off the week. Nothing too remarkable happens, though there's a real sensation when Second Division table-toppers Bolto lose at home to bottom club Burnley -

lose at home to bottom club Burnley — and that lets in Spurs as new leaders. A real weirdie, though, in the Third Division, where Lincoln and Plymouth draw 2-2 — Terry Austin and Phil Neale BOTH scoring at EACH end!

Charlie George (only two goals in twelve months up to Christmas) weighs-in with a brilliant hat-trick in Derby's 4-2 defeat of Coventry. Forest (who can't be kept out of the news!) drop a last-minute home point to nearest rivals Everton — both goals coming est rivals Everton — both goals coming

from penalties.

Next day, manager Clough (who, like Forest, also can't be kept out of the news!) makes more by joining soccer's Establishment. He's appointed joint-manager, in tow with Ken Burton, of the England Youth team. Other new Greenwood aides are Bobby Robson (with Don Howe as number two) in charge of the newly-revived "B" side; and Dave Sexton (with Terry Venables as assistant) for the Under-21 team.

Manager-less West Bromwich make an attractive bid to entice Jim Smith—but Blackburn persuade their progres-

an attractive bid to entice Jim Smith but Blackburn persuade their progressive young boss to stay put. But one manager definitely on the move is Allen Batsford who, after an internal blow-up, quits Wimbledon just five months after leading them triumphantly into the Football League.

Football League.

Joe Jordan is on the move at last —
to Manchester United. Manager Dave
Sexton happily hands over £350,000 to
get the Leeds' striker in the first topmoney deal of 1978. And that may not
be the end of Old Trafford's New Year dealings - Sexton is reported to be

using either Gordon Hill or Stuart Pearson as bait in yet another attempt to prise Gerry Francis from Q.P.R.

Saturday brings the F.A. Cup Third Round — the "Big-Boys" time — and it's a Cup of shame. Two goals down, the top match is held up for 20 minutes by fighting Leeds fans as Manchester City win at Elland Road. But full marks to referee Colin Seel, who warns the hooligans over loudspeakers: "This match will not be abandoned. I'll stay here till midnight if necessary to finish it!" Rightly, the ref got his way — and City go through 2-1.

City's neighbours United are held to a draw by Third Division Carlisle — while two goals from "unknown" youngster Clive Walker help Chelsea sensationally to oust Euro Champions Liverpool 4-2.

But it was largely a day when the giants did the killings themselves — only Blyth Spartans of the non-League survivors survived further. They beat fellow non-Leaguers Enfield.

Highspot, though, is Arsenal's crush-

survivors survived further. They beat fellow non-Leaguers Enfield.
Highspot, though, is Arsenal's crushing 5-0 win at Sheffield United — and, although the bookies make Forest firm 7-to-1 favourites, a lot of money is going on the on-form Gunners to reach Wembley.

### \* SATURDAY SUMMARY \*

HIGHEST SCORE: 5 — Arsenal; Bury. TOTAL GOALS: 125 HAT-TRICKS: 1 — Buckley (Walsall v. TABLE-TOPPERS: Div 1, Forest; Div 2,

Spurs; Div 3, Wrexham; Div 4, Watford, HIGHEST GATE: 46,320 — Everton v. Villa. TOTAL GATE: 689,008. AVERAGE GATE: 16,405.

### SLIP

THE start of the New Year and Ran-gers and Aberdeen go farther ahead in the race for the Championship flag.

in the race for the Championship flag. Both pick up the maximum points from their games over the holiday period. Rangers beat Thistle 2-1 on the Monday and The Dons win 1-0 when Dundee Utd. come to Pittodrie. Celtic slip against Motherwell. They are now eleven points behind the leaders. Aberdeen make the first signing of the year and Steve Archibald moves from Clyde for £20,000.

On the Saturday in an "Old Firm"

from Clyde for £20,000.

On the Saturday in an "Old Firm" match packed with action Rangers beat Celtic 3-1. Ayr Utd. hold Aberdeen to a one each draw, while lowly Clydebank shock the Thistle fans by scoring two goals against the Firhill side. Mother-live in the state of the sta well's one goal against St. Mirren is enough to pick up the points. Dundee

Utd. and Hibs share the honours with a 1-1 draw.
Celtic's Johnny Doyle goes into hos-

pital for a cartilage operation. Doyle is the third Parkhead player to have this operation this season, following Alfie Conn and Pat Stanton.

Bobby Lennox, the last of the "Lisbon Lions" still playing at Parkhead turns down the chance of moving to Ayr.

### \* SATURDAY SUMMARY \*

TOTAL GOALS: 57
TABLE TOPPERS: Rangers
PREMIER DIVISION TOTAL ATTENDANCE: HIGHEST GATE: Rangers v Celtic, 51,000 HIGHEST SCORE: 4 — Albion, Forfar, Morton, St Johnstone. Week Ending JANUARY 14th . . .

### **WATFORD 9 POINTS CLEAR**

TOP-PRIORITY importance at the start of the week is the Cup draw and there's a real cracker when Man-chester City, fresh from their win at Leeds, are next scheduled to travel to Forest. Quickly the bookies revise their odds — and now make Arsenal and Ipswich 7-to-1 joint favourites instead of Forest

Liverpool (despite their shock early Cup exit) are still a mighty good side — and, as such, are ambitious enough never to be satisfied. So they crack the record transfer fee by splashing-out £352,000 on talented Middlesbrough midfield Graeme Souness — and reckon it's money well spent for a fair Kop!

After an honourable draw in Bristol, Third Division pacesetters Wrexham create an upset in the week's first Cup replay by convincingly crushing City 2.0

There's speculation that Gordon McQueen may follow his ex-Leeds team-mate Joe Jordan to Manchester United — at an even bigger fee — but manager Jimmy Armfield insists the big Scots' defender is staying put. But one move which is settled is that Ron Atkinson steps out from Cambridge into the First Division spotlight as West Brom's

First Division spotlight as West Brom's new manager.
There's a lot of talk about Forest's healthy lead in the First Division — but what of Elton John's Watford in the Fourth? By the middle of January, they're already nine points in the clear — which must be pretty near some sort of record so early on.

As to Forest themselves, Cloughie goes back to Derby for the first time since he sensationally quit in 1973 — but has to be content with sharing the spoils. The 0-0 draw is highlighted by a

spoils. The 0-0 draw is highlighted by a

superb display by Peter Shilton — his 11th "shut-out" since Forest signed him in September.

Plenty of goals around, with a bunch of fives from Coventry — just a week after opponents Chelsea had Cup-conquered Liverpool — Blackpool, Bolton, and Preston.

And five is a potentially embarassing total which Sheffield United concede at home for the second week running — beaten 5-0 by Arsenal last week, and 5-1

beaten 5-0 by Arsenal last week, and 5-1 by Bolton now.

There's real "Will - he Won't - he?" drama at Loftus Road where, after Q.P.R. break out of their losing trot by beating Norwich, manager Frank Sibley announces Gerry Francis will definitely be signing for Manchester United for a new British record fee of £445,000. Sibley claims all was fixed-up with Dave Sexton late the previous night — but, in Sexton late the previous night — but, in a mystery mix-up, later on on Saturday evening the United chief denies any deal was done.

### \* SATURDAY SUMMARY \*

HIGHEST SCORE: 5 — Coventry; Blackpool; Bolton; Preston.
TOTAL GOALS: 120
HAT-TRICKS: 2 — Graham (Leeds v. Birmingham); Hatton (Blackpool v. Charlton).
TABLE-TOPPERS: Div 1, Forest; Div 2,
Bolton; Div 3, Wrexham; Div 4, Watford.
HIGHEST GATE: 43,627 — Man. City v.
Weet Ham West Ham. TOTAL GATE: 540,978. AVERAGE GATE: 12,580.

SNOW K.O.'s six matches but Scottish fans have their eyes on a sunny land . . . Argentina and the World Cup draw. The Tartan Army watches as Scotland are grouped with Holland, Iran and Berg. and Peru.

On the domestic scene Rangers tighten their grip on the Premier Division with a two-goal win over St. Mirren at Love Street.

Aberdeen keep up their bid for the title by beating Celtic 2-1. In the only other Premier game played Motherwell score three against Ayr.

An £8 million plan for improvements

at Hampden is unveiled. Eventually the ground will have a capacity of 80,000 ... and all the spectators will be seated. Willie Waddell, Rangers' vice-chairman and general manager, appeals to fans NOT to travel to Berwick for the club's Third Round tie in the Scottish

Cup.
The move came just hours after SFA officials inspected the Second Div. ground and decided the game should go on ... with a crowd limit of 10,000.
Rangers say Sheilfield Park is unsuitable to house a large crowd. Waddell

able to house a large crowd. Waddell says: "We will refuse to handle any ticket for the match. If Berwick Rangers send us an allocation, we will send it

### \* SATURDAY SUMMARY \*

TOTAL GOALS: 38
TABLE TOPPERS: Rangers
PREMIER DIVISION TOTAL ATTENDANCE: HIGHEST GATE: Aberdeen v. Celtic, 25,000 HIGHEST SCORE: 7 — Raith



### 1977-78 SEASON IN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND

Week Ending JANUARY 21 . . .

### A BIG FREEZE

THERE's an early-week F.A. Cup replay shock as lowly Orient get through on Norwich's ground. Peter Kitchen, their much sought-after striker, does the damage — and Norwich, chastened but suitably wich, chastened but suitably impressed, join the queue of potential First Division buyers.
In the League Cup Quarter-Finals, For-

est cruise on with a comfortable 3-0 win at Bury; while Wrexham's doughty fight can't stop a superb Dalglish hattrick for Liverpool.

Erratic Leeds bounce back to form by slamming Everton 4-1, but a sparkling show by Pat Jennings gives Arsenal another chance against Manchester

City.

There are plenty of rumours still flying around about Manchester United, Gerry Francis, and Gordon McQueen. But, so far, still only rumours — and the vast amount of cash involved still remains firmly in their local bank.

The Euro clubs are still eyeing our players. John Toshack may be in-andout of the Liverpool side, but Belgian aces Anderlecht reckon the Welsh strik-

er's power in the air would do their attack a power of good. Winter hits Britain over the weekend

 and 12 League games are frozen-off.
 But England, unlike Scotland, still has plenty of soccer left — and some interesting outcomes in the snow.

High-flying Arsenal have high hopes of success this season — but, after being beaten 2-0 at Nottingham (with

yet another vital goal from defender Needham) manager Terry Neill con-cedes: "I can't see us, or anyone else, catching Forest now. No wonder Brian doesn't talk so much these days — he doesn't need to with performances like this!"

this!"
Manchester City — the side Clough says he fears most in the League, and whom Forest must meet in the F.A. Cup next week — win at Norwich, and are now second. And, just to continue the connection, Clough has made a £300,000 bid for unsettled Dennis Tueart — though the City striker insists he wants any move to be across the Atlantic. Atlantic.

Tommy Doc has an unhappy return to Old Trafford. His Derby side are slammed 4-0 by the club which fired him in the summer.

### \* SATURDAY SUMMARY \*

**HIGHEST SCORE: 5 — Chelsea; Brighton;** NIGHEST SCURE: 5 — Chelsea; Brighton; Sunderland; Bury, TOTAL GOALS: 85. HAT-TRICKS: 2 — Ward (Brighton v. Man-sfield); Mayes (Watford v. York). TABLE-TOPPERS: Div 1, Forest; Div 2, Bolton; Div 3, Tranmere; Div 4, Watford. HIGHEST GATE: 57,115 — Man. Utd. v. Derby. TOTAL GATE: 498,780 AVERAGE GATE: 16,626

### Week Ending JANUARY 28 . . .

### LEEDS' PUNISHMENT

WHILE Gerry Francis, having bid farewell to his Q.P.R. colleagues, is now back in the team, another transfer riddle — the Gordon McQueen saga continues unabated. Now the Scots — continues unabated. Now the Scots have muscled in, with Rangers reputedly topping Manchester United's rejected bid for the unsettled Leeds star defender. Tommy Doc's Derby are also interested.

One definite move is on the managerial front. "Happy Harry" Haslam, cheerfully successful Luton boss despite six

troubled years there, takes over at Shef-field United.

**Ambitious Arsenal power themselves** through to the League Cup Semi-Finals with a 1-0 replay victory over Manchester City — though it takes a late, and highly controversial, Brady penalty to do the trick.

Bad news for the growing army of female fans. For richer, for poorer — for better, for Best — Georgie weds at last; The wee Irish genius may have quit our football for good — but he still makes front-page news for most newspapers with his Los Angeles match-of-the-day with model Angela MacDonald-James

Wembley already hogs the cream of English Cup Finals and internationals and now they want to get a slice of the League action, too. They make it clear — to anyone who'll listen — that they'd welcome a London First Division club making their home there. Now Leeds know the punishment for

their rowdy fans' pitch invasion when they were knocked-out of the F.A. Cup by Manchester City three weeks ago. The club is ordered to play all F.A. Cup-ties away from Elland Road for the next three seasons — though the ban

could be lifted after next season IF the fans can prove their good behaviour in the meantime.

the meantime.

Saturday soccer is badly under the weather — and the Pools Panel has to come into action. Only nine of the 16 F.A. Cup-ties can be played — with Third Division Walsall's win over Leicester the best of the day. Alun Evans—

ter the best of the day. Alun Evans—who in his youthful glory-days with Liverpool once scored a Euro hat-trick against Bayern Munich—gets the only, decisive goal in the last minute. It's quite a day for vital last-minute Cup goals. Another for Malcolm Macdonald edges Arsenal through 2-1 against Wolves; another for Wrexham's Dixie McNeil earns a replay against Newcastle—while yet another from Steve Coppell saves Cup-holders Manchester United from going out at home chester United from going out at home to West Bromwich.

But United's opponents last May, Southampton, bow 2-0 to Bristol Rovers — both goals being scored by up-coming teenager Paul Randall, who started the season in the part-time obs-curity of the Western League.

### \* SATURDAY SUMMARY \*

HIGHEST SCORE: 6 — Watford. TOTAL GOALS: 77. HAT-TRICKS: 1 — Butler (Huddersfield v. TABLE-TOPPERS: Div 1, Forest; Div 2, Bolton; Div 3, Tranmere; Div 4, Watford. HIGHEST GATE: 57,056 — Man. Utd. v. West Brom TOTAL GATE: 380,301. AVERAGE GATE: 17,286.

### ONLY ONE GAME PLAYED

SCOTLAND is in the grip of winter.
Snow blankets the country and fixtures are cancelled. Only one game beats the white-out ... Kilmarnock beats the white-out ... Kilmarnock draw with Airdrie 1-1.
Rangers decide to beat the winter

blues by heading to the sun. Manager Jock Wallace takes his first team squad to Majorca for a three-day break. He says: "The lads have had a hard

season. It is right they are rewarded in this way.

When we come back the batteries should be recharged — all set for a continuation of our challenge in the League and for the start of the Scottish Cup campaign.

Superstar Rod Stewart announces he will make a record with the Scottish World Cup squad.

Lion-maned Stewart has already given £2,500 to the pool — the sum he would have spent if he had had the time to travel from California for the team's deciding qualifying tie against Wales.

Willie McLean, who resigned in December as manager of Premier Division Motherwell, is appointed team boss of Second Division Raith Rovers.

### **GREIG'S FOOTBALL**

SCOTTISH Cup action . . . and some ties manage to beat the weather. Rangers go down to Shielfield Park. The last time two "Rangers" met in 1967 in the Cup, Berwick won 1-0. But this time the Ibrox outfit run out the winners with a 4-2 scoreline.

with a 4-2 scoreline.

Ibrox manager Jock Wallace was in goal for Berwick on the day when they toppled the 'Gers and Berwick's manager Dave Smith was in the defeated

Drox side.
Only six ties were able to beat the weather. Snow and frost chalked off the other ten.

Motherwell score four against Arbroath as do Hibs against East Fife. Dundee Utd. beat Hamilton 4-1, Meadowbank go through after a 2-1 win over Inverness, while Queen of the

Q.P.R's Gerry Francis (left). West Brom's Ally Brown (below) robs Manchester United's Martin Buchan.

South and Montrose draw two each, Rangers' captain John Greig, capped 42 times by Scotland, says his testimonial match will feature Rangers against a Scottish World Cup Select on Sunday,

April 16.
Greig, with 17 years at Ibrox, is the

first Rangers player ever to be honoured in this way.

Scotland team boss Ally MacLeod says his World Cup squad will have a warm-up match with Bulgaria at Hampden.

### \* SATURDAY SUMMARY \*

TOTAL GOALS: 24. TABLE-TOPPERS: Rangers. HIGHEST GATE: Berwick v. Rangers, HIGHEST SCORE: 4 - Motherwell, Rangers, Dundee United, Hibs.







# Then, with the ref looking at his Then, with the ref looking at his watch, Peter Barnes scored a third. This was even more satisfying in some ways as it was the result of a build-up that started with Peter Shilton in goal and involving Mick Mills, Tony Currie and Steve Coppell. Northern Ireland didn't make it easy for us at Wembley with their hard running and defensive formation. In fairness, their squad was depleted by injuries and this game has no relevance on the European Championship tie next February. The England players were, generally speaking, not as "on song" as they were against Wales and in the end I was glad simply to win. One Irish star who did catch my eye was Gerry Armstrong, the centre-forward. From what I saw, the Spurs player had a good tournament and posed a few problems with his bustling style. Overall, Ireland didn't impress me but, as I said, the European Championship will be a different kettle of fish. It was difficult for me to play in defence, but it gave me the chance to appreciate certain team-mates even more.

WHETHER the Scots will agree or not, in my mind England are the best team in Britain. Surely our 100 per cent record in the British Championship entitles us to the status of the Number One nation? If not . . . what's the purpose of having a Home Championship?

We proved we can beat all our British rivals, two of them away from home. It may have hurt the Scots' pride, especially as I've seen their team play better than they did against us, but there is no way that I'm going to minimise our triumph. If someone had suggested at the beginning of 1977/78 that England, with the problems of Don Revie's departure, would finish as Champions of Britain, that person would have found few people to agree with him. Yet under the shrewd management of Ron Greenwood we have restored much of our pride and while I don't say we're a great team yet . . . we're certainly going in the right direction.

The British Championship wasn't a classic in terms of football thrills and skills. It was interesting, yet not really outstanding.

For England, the victory WAS marvellous, though — to clinch the title at Hampden gave us as much pleasure as it would the Scots at Wembley had the situation been reversed.

From England of the situation been reversed.

From my own point of view, I was delighted to get back into the England side after missing the previous international against Brazil with a groin injury.

I played in all four games, including the Hungary friendly, and while I take nothing for granted, I'm proud to be part of the England setup because I can see us making a big impact in the European Championship.

My performance against Wales was the most varied, starting in midfield, then moving back to right-back when Trevor Cherry injured a shoulder.

to appreciate certain team-mates even more.

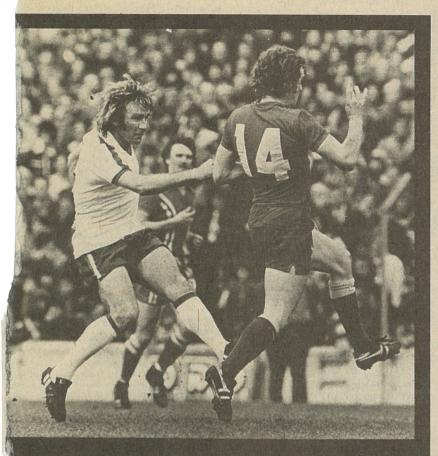
Stevie Coppell helped me tremendously, working like a beaver in front of me. Any Welsh player attacking down our right flank had the Manchester United star to contend with before meeting up with me, and Steve did such a good job that I didn't really have to make too many vital tackles.

It was hard to stop myself from going forward. I remember on one occasion when I started to go upfield and Dave Watson yelled out: "You're playing in defence now!" Dave and Emlyn Hughes also helped me, talking all the time and encouraging me non-stop.

I thought the game in Cardiff was going to be a draw, but Tony Currie made it 2-1 with a screamer of a shot after making space for himself.

watch, Peter Barnes scored a third.

writes for you TOP RIGHT: Tony Currie blasts the ball past John Mahoney to score England's sec-ond goal against LEFT: Ray slides in to tackle Scotland winger Willie Johnston. Phil Neal looks on.



Then . . . the "biggie". It was my first taste of the real Hampden roar;

first taste of the real Hampden roar; my previous experience was in a Inter-League game and a special Jubilee match last year.

What a roar it is! The Scotland fans are incredible — they must be the best in the world when it comes to getting behind their team. Even a defeat by the "auld enemy" didn't dampen their spirits.

It was nerve-wracking to begin with, but I soon settled down when the game started.

the game started.
I've been a little annoyed at some of the comments about this game.
"We were robbed" claimed the Scots, but while Scotland may have had territorial advantage, they created few clear-cut chances.
Scotland were trying 100 per cent

created few clear-cut chances.

Scotland were trying 100 per cent, that's for certain — some of their tackling left one in no doubt that they wanted to beat England.

The referee didn't help matters. He blew up for the slightest infringement and at times it was more like Rugby with so many stoppages!

pages!
Of course England were under pressure — who would have expected anything else?

### Pressure

Pressure

Playing at Hampden is like playing at Anfield. No side can go there and put the Scots under the sort of pressure they always exert at home. In the second-half, we moved Mick Mills more into midfield to combat the menace of Bruce Rioch, who was later substituted. This enabled us to keep a grip on the match and I thought it was a good, fighting performance by England. Let's face it — all that matters in these games is the result. At the end of the day, the fans are only concerned about who won, such is the rivalry. We were absolutely delighted to have won at Hampden. I believe we were the first side to win there for four years, and it must

be harder for England to win up there than anyone else!

I thought some of the things Ally MacLeod said after the game about us and certain players were disgraceful. Apparently he's taken them back, but . . .

Still, who cares? We won!

Of all the England players, Dave Watson was, I felt, the most outstanding. He has everything a centre-half should have . . . he's strong, dominant in the air, quick and won't be intimidated.

England have come a long way in the past season. We're well-organised, we have a fairly settled side with four or five players seemingly regulars.

Our biggest problem is scoring goals. We have plenty of players who have proved themselves in this department at League level and once we find the right blend with England, we could go places.

Our next game is in the European Championship, in Denmark, and it's in competitive football that we must prove ourselves.

England did well last season against five World Cup Finalists.

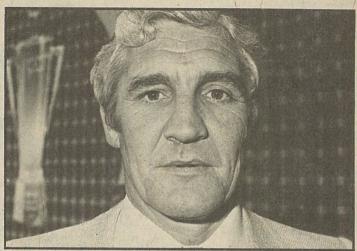
We beat Italy, narrowly lost in West Germany, drew with Brazil yet won the honours, beat Scotland at Hampden and then finishing up with a comprehensive 4-1 victory over Hungary.

Three wins, one draw and one defeat — a most satisfying record.

Join me again in a fortnight,



# BOLTON ACHIEVED



# THE IMPOSSIBLE says manager lan Greaves

THE general reaction of any manager winning promotion is to reach for the champagne and lift the cork on the celebrations.
Well, Bolton Wanderers' greying

boss lan Greaves did that all right - but his feelings were more of relief than elation.

The reasons are well known. It's taken Bolton three years to actually achieve what they've always threatened to do. Twice before the prize of promotion has been snatched from their grasp, and there have been moments when Greaves felt he was living a life of tortuous hell rather than that of a man whose side was winning as consistently as any.

These have been the three most horrendous years of my life, even worse than the times at Hud-dersfield when we went down from the First to the Third Division. There were reasons for that, but this team at Bolton is so good it would have been criminal if we'd slipped again.

There has been no reason why we shouldn't have gone up before, but we slipped up when it most mattered, and if we'd blown it again this time we would certainly have been dubbed failures.

"It is almost impossible for a side to go for promotion three years running. The players become drained and it's too much to expect of them.

But we did it and now people are saying what a great side we are. It's certainly smashing going back to the First Division — both for me and for the club which has such a great tradition."

Greaves really came to the crossroads last summer after his

team had been pipped by Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest. "I decided to give it one last fling. Some of the players — and I couldn't blame them — wanted to go, probably afraid of failing again, but I persuaded them to stick together and give it one last

chance.
"This time, thank God, we were rewarded. We have too many good players not to have done when you think about it, but all the same it was probably the toughest year of the lot.

"Spurs and Southampton were always going to be in there at the death, and when you consider Brighton stayed down despite getting 56 points you realise just how tough it was."

Greaves made crucial signings this time — ex-England centre-forward Frank Worthington, from Leicester. He responded with a dozen goals.

And Alan Gowling, like Worthington a former Greaves boy at Huddersfield, arrived from Newcastle to add power and maturity

to the side.
Now Worthington looks forward to seeing these two performing again at the very top level along with players like Neil Whatmore, Peter Reid, Paul Jones and Sam Allardyce who will be getting their first taste of life at the top.

Greaves is honest enough to say he couldn't have done it all him-self, and he pays particular tribute to his number two George Mulhall, the former Scottish international winger, who since his playing days has proved an outstanding motivator with Bolton Wanderers, and before that as manager of

Halifax Town.
"George has done a great job and I hope at this time next year people are talking about Greaves and Mulhall, just as now they talk of Brian Clough and Peter Taylor. It's a two-man job and we aim to prove we can make it just as well in the First as we have done in the Second," says Greaves.

A LAN BUCKLEY, the 26-year-old goalscoring sensation from Walsall, has a burning ambition to play in the First Division, and there was a lot of truth in the offer of a £175,000 move to Derby County.
Says Alan: "This was made just

Says Alan: "This was made just after I signed a long term contract with the Fellows Park club, and hopefully we haven't seen the end of it.

of it.
"I think everybody thought,
well, he's signed a nine year
contract and he doesn't want to
leave, but of course I do, especially
if it's to a big First Division club.

"I live close to Derby and, with my brother Steve at the Baseball Ground as well, it would be a dream move for me."

dream move for me."
In five seasons Mansfield-born
Buckley has been top scorer,
having notched 141 goals. Last
term he grabbed 29.

"It wasn't until October when I netted my fourth things really began to tick.

### No Disgrace

"In the end we just missed out on promotion to the Second Division.

Division.

"The Saddlers also had a good Cup run. We beat Leicester 1-0 at Fellows Park and finally got knocked out 4-1 by Arsenal in the Fifth Round. It was no disgrace to lose at Highbury to a side which went on to Wembley.

"The last gasp Alun Evans goal against Leicester was tremendous. People say there was only one goal in it, and that was it. But we were by far the better team for the whole of the 90 minutes."

whole of the 90 minutes.
"But my biggest thrill was when
we beat Manchester United after

## 'Derby — a dream move for me'

says ALAN BUCKLEY (Walsall)



extra-time in the Cup replay three seasons ago at Fellows Park. We drew 0-0 at Old Trafford, then won 3-2. I scored a couple that night and for me it was the most memorable match I've played in. Doug Fraser was the manager at the time.

"How do I find my present boss
Dave Mackay? I must admit, when
he first came to the club in 1977, I
did wonder what would happen to
me, because I was under him at
Forest and I never had a look in. I
only played a couple of first team
games, then I found myself in the
reserves.

"But the minute he walked through the door at Walsall he had me in the office and said: 'There'll be no way you'll be leaving this season. The club needs you.' "This time it's been a great experience to play under Dave Mackay and coach Des Anderson. I've got a lot of respect for the pair of them now and I've really enjoyed my football."

of them now and I've really enjoyed my football."
What about Alan's consistent goalscoring ability? "It's funny whenever this comes up in conversation the name Dixie McNeil is mentioned.

"I know the Wrexham striker very well and probably over the past five seasons he's the nearest to me in the goalscoring stakes. Last term he totalled 28, one less than me

than me.

"Like McNeil, I've always
managed to score goals, apart
from my spell at Forest, that is. I
think I only notched one in the
League for them.

"But in my first season at Walsall I got 25 and have been a regular goalscorer ever since. It's a natural knack. I go out intending to score in every match. I don't need any motivating."

any motivating."
Which goal does Alan treasure
most? "The one I really enjoyed
was the one against Brighton in
the season 1975-76 when I took my
overall tally to 34

overall tally to 34.

"A long ball came down the left-wing and an opponent stepped in to tackle me. I rounded him. Then another came and I beat him as well. By this time I'd only touched the ball twice and I found myself in the penalty-box. And

with my third touch I put my head down and blasted the ball into the roof of the net."

Alan has been described as quicksilver and deadly, a bombshell and a sharpshooter who has a look of former Manchester City, Derby and England striker Francis Lee. "It's tremendous to be thought

"It's tremendous to be thought of in the same breath as him," he said. "We're about the same size, although I think Frannie had a bit more weight on him than I have. He was more stocky. He played most of his football in the First Division and I've still got that to do.

"But I wouldn't like people to run away with the idea I just score goals and nothing else. I like to think there's more to my play. I love to get involved and to knock the ball around."

### Advantage

At 5' 6" Alan is on the short side for a striker. Does he find it a disadvantage? "This ia a question I'm often asked," he said. "There are a lot of six-footers in the Third Division who score about ten goals per season. In a way it must be an advantage. It all boils down to how good you are; not how big you are. If you are on the short side then you're going to be sharper in the box, but you're not going to score as many headers, although I have scored a few.

"If you look up the records of the big fellows and compare them with mine, then there's no comparison."

And it's Alan's record — not size
— that could well see him playing
in the First Division next season.







HISTORY OF THE



Michael Archer

### Foreword by Sir Alf Ramsey by Michael Archer

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## CAN WEST HAM AND NEWCASTLE UNITED REGAIN THEIR FIRST DIVISION STATUS NEXT SEASON?

EVERY successful footballer reaches the stage at some time of his career where a crucial decision has to be made, and none could have felt that more than West Ham's brilliant international Trevor Brooking at the end of the

Ironically at a time when Trevor seems at last to have established himself in an England side going places, his club has finally suc-cumbed to the threat of relegation.

Second Division football cannot possibly be the best route to the international team, and in spite of all his considerable gifts, Trevor knows there is a danger of losing the edge to his game.

Nevertheless he has decided to

successful footballer probably benefited from a year away from the top flight.

"Youngsters like Glenn Hoddle and Neil McNab matured in a way they may not have done in the First Division. If you're winning it's easier to gain confidence and play football, whereas a losing run makes it difficult for anyone coming into the side.

"We've got young players at Upton Park like Alan Devonshire, Alvin Martin, Geoff Pike and Paul Brush who could all be better players for the experience of a year in the Second Division.

"Mind you I'm not kidding myself it's going to be easy. I would obviously have preferred to be still playing First Division footstay with the club that gave him ball, and there's no guarantee we'll

EVERYTHING looked rosy for Newcastle United when the 1977-78 season kicked-off last August. After all, The Magpies had finished a creditable fifth in the First Division the previous term and qualified for a U.E.F.A. Cup

But things started going wrong before a ball had been kicked in earnest. The players threatened to go on strike and hand in transfer requests unless they were rewarded for the 1976-77 season's

The club smoothed the dispute over but they were heading for a disastrous start to the campaign. One player involved was full-back Alan Kennedy.
He explains: "The unrest could

possibly have been an answer but I can't put my finger on why things went so wrong. We won our first game against Leeds but then lost the next ten and were knocked out of the League Cup by Second Division Millwall at home.

"Our European hopes were dashed by Bastia in the Second

Newcastle looked doomed after only 12 League games but a handful of clubs above them were also struggling to pick up points.
The almost inevitable happened

- manager Richard Dinnis was

"I felt sorry for him," says the England B full-back. "He seemed



### 'Yes, but it won't be easy for The Hammers'

TREVOR BROOKING



his professional chance, and has brought out all the qualities that have made him such an outstand-

ing success.
"I realise my career could be at the crossroads because of our relegation, and most people expected me to move to another First Division club. But I honestly believe I can help West Ham back at the first attempt.

Tottenham were in the same situation last year, but they fought best, and England can ill afford to their way out of the Second Divilet him slip out of their plans sion, and some of their players because of the demise of his club. situation last year, but they fought their way out of the Second Divi-

come straight back. We'll have to work mighty hard.

**Brooking is convinced West Ham** have more commitment than they used to have, and that men of the calibre of Billy Bonds and David Cross - besides himself - will be eager to get the club out of its present mess.

As far as his own position goes he'll no doubt be reminded of Mike Channon's decision to stay with Southampton when they were relegated four years ago.

Although he managed to hold his place in the England side for a couple of years, Mike would probably admit his appetite for the game, and his sharpness, suffered from playing at places like Old-ham, Hull and Cardiff instead of Manchester, Liverpool and Leeds.

It can't be easy for an international-class player like Trevor Brooking to sustain top form week in and week out when he's not in competition with the best English football can offer — and that has to be a worry to Ron Greenwood, an admirer of Brooking's, and the man who can guide his interna-tional future alongside players like Ray Wilkins and Tony Currie.

Still Trevor has made up his mind and despite overtures from the continent, and rumours linking him with Manchester City, he'll be starting the new season in that familiar claret and blue shirt.

It may well be, of course, that if things don't go right, and The Hammers are obviously not going to get back to the First Division straight away, he'll be on the

Whatever happens though, it's to be hoped it works out for Trevor Brooking because not only is he one of the nicest professional footballers around, he's also one of the

### 'We'll return a stronger, better side' ALAN KENNEDY

to get a rough deal. And I hope he succeeds with Philadelphia Fury in the North America Soccer League. He deserves it.

The new man in charge was Bill McGarry, the former Wolves boss. Newcastle started picking up useful points and closing the gap on the other clubs.

My first impression of Mr McGarry was he was a hard so-and-so," says the Sunderland-born defender. "But he is very pleasant. Although he clamps down when he has to. He is an excellent coach.

'It's not an excuse but maybe a reason for our disastrous term was our injury situation. I spent three and a half months sidelined with torn left knee ligaments, Geoff **Nulty and Alan Gowling now** Bolton, of course, were also out for

long spells."
Just prior to United's F.A. Cup Fourth Round tie with Wrexham, the St. James' Park boat was rocked again when there was speculation boss McGarry was bout to join managerless Stoke

City.
"It wasn't the ideal preparation
"Cave the likeable for a Cup game," says the likeable Kennedy. "And as it turned out, the Third Division club thoroughly

deserved to beat us 4-1 in a replay after a home 2-2 draw.

'It was a great boost to the club when Bill turned Stoke down and decided to stay at Newcastle. The

players appreciated that."
But McGarry couldn't perform a miracle and keep the club in the First. Newcastle eventually finished 21st.

Says Kennedy: "Yes, it was a great disappointment. However our relegation does not mean the end of the world. In fact it could be the beginning of a new exciting period for the club.

'I'm positive we can do a Manchester United and Spurs and bounce back first time with a stronger squad.

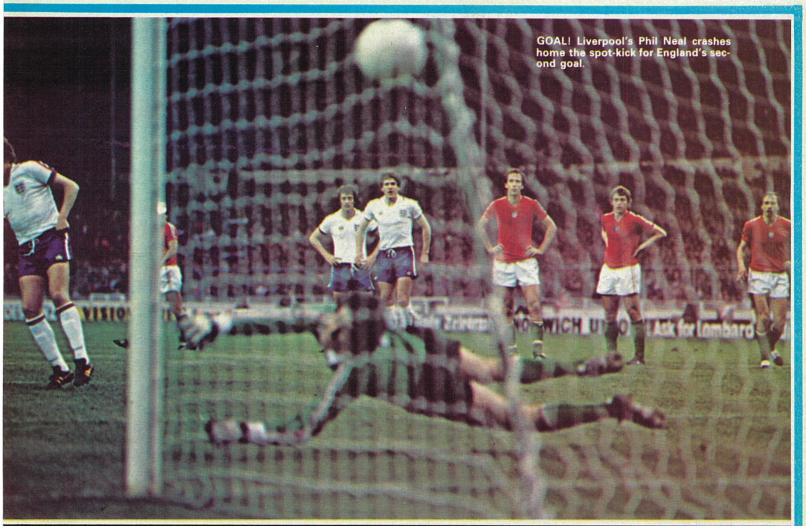
I remember watching The Magpies from the terraces when they were in the Second Division before. They were battling for promotion in 1964-65 and regularly attracted crowds of between 50,000 and 60,000 for home games. We could do the same."

It will also depend on whether they can keep their star players like Kennedy — and McGarry gets harmony within the club. Next season will definitely be a testing one for Newcastle United and we wish them the best of luck.









# BOAL HUNGARY ENGLAND





BRITISH weather certainly had a downer" on Nottingham Forest fan David Cooke.

For David, a fanatic in the true sense of the word, was so intent on seeing his team play Manchester City in the Fourth Round F.A. Cup clash he travelled all the way from Libya — where he is working — only for the match to be postponed. Returning to North Africa disappointed, David at least had some consolation when

Forest eventually beat City and then went on to win the Championship.

### CLOUGHIE "SWAYS" CRUYFF

Cruyff for their World Cup team? Simple. They were the only people to

Simple. They were the only people to ask him.
"We wondered what he would be doing for the World Cup and asked if he would be interested in joining our panel," said Press Officer Peter Coppock.
"Johan was delighted and accepted our invitation immediately. He said he was excited at the thought of linking up with Brian Clough and Kevin Keegan, two people he admires tremendously." two people he admires tremendously

### Wile staying at Albion



WEST Bromwich Albion manager, Ron Atkinson, has firmly denied there is any rift between himself and his team

captain, John Wile (above). Reports stated Wile would soon be on the move from The Hawthorns but Atkinson said the central-defender. who impressed with his courageous display after receiving a head injury

against Ipswich Town in the F.A. Cup Semi-Final, will be staying with Albion. Atkinson claimed reports suggesting Wile would be leaving were mischief

"John is a key player in our plans," said Atkinson, "and vital to our future

### Cooper leaving Boro?

MIDDLESBROUGH manager John Neal MIDDLESBROUGH manager John Neal took prompt action when Terry Cooper missed the club's Norway tour. Neal suspended and transfer-listed the former Leeds United and England star. The 33-year-old defender, who claimed he was injured, was shaken. Neal insisted, "There will be no change of mind."

### GRAEME SOUNESSthe new power at Anfield



Scornish international Graems
Souness has had an amazing year.
"I think I will wake up, suddenly, and find it has all been a dream," he says.
The year began on a sour note.

Souness refused to play against Liver-pool and was rapped by Middles-brough. Eager to sample the big-time, Souness was miserable. His mood affected his play.

Ironically, Liverpool ended his despair. The midfield star needed no persuasion once the clubs had agreed on a £352,000 deal. After being in and out of the side, Souness proved his class and set up the European Cup Final-winning goal for Kenny Dalglish

Final-winning goal for Kenny Dalglish at Wembley.

Souness, hailed as a new power at Anfield, says: "I feel as though I am in a different world. Everything has happened for me . . . Goal of the Season award, Wembley, and Argentina. Liverpool are a fantastic, friendly club. They must be the best in Britain Britain.

"The professionalism is tremend-ous and with so many class players around you have to be on peak form all the time. When the World Cup is all over I will lie on a beach in Majorca and wonder whether it is all true."

The former Spurs' player has been romantically linked with Swedish beauty Mary Stavins, the current Miss World. The good-looking bachelor dismisses talk with the old, old quote

Only one cloud in the sky for a player who has sampled glory beyond his wildest dreams. A house he bought at Southport was burgled. Thieves took everything but the carpets.

Now the house is up for sale.

### Bob's bad luck

BLACKPOOL striker Bob Hatton was right on target for the Daily Express £10,000 prize for the first player to score 30 First or Second goals in a season before being checked by a pulled calf muscle. Now Blackpool are in the Third Division and 24-goal Hatton can only reflect on the bad luck that stopped his progress after hitting a record four hat-tricks in a season. Says Bob: "It was just bad luck, but I was particularly glad to see my old Birmingham team-mate Bob Latchford hit the jackpot."

### Record-breaking Robbie

AT THE END OF the season, Swansea City's Robbie James (below) enjoyed a double celebration — his 21st birthday and

his 200th League appearance.

In February, 1976, aged 18, he became the youngest player to reach a century of League games, beating the previous record held by Jimmy Greaves with Chelsea. Now Robbie achieves another record as

the youngest player to complete 200 League appearances. Already honoured with selec-tion for the Welsh Under-21 squad it may not be long before he steps up into the senior



Fourth Division Darlington's directors have clubbed together and bought a racehorse. The name — Up The Quakers.

### HISTORY OF Bradford P.A.

MALCOLM HARTLEY, sportswriter and assistant to the Editor of the Telegraph and Argus evening newspaper in Bradford, has compiled a History of Bradford Park Avenue, the once famous club that was forced into voluntary liquidation in

forced into voluntary liquidation in May 1974.

The booklet is available from Pickup Programmes, 17 Priesthorpe Avenue, Pudsey, Yorkshire at £2 plus 15p postage.

BRISTOL CITY's physiotherapist Les Bardsley has quit the club after 21 years to go into private practice.

### 'THANKS, DAVE'

BERWICK RANGERS, the English club who play in Scottish League football, had their best season for years when they finished third top in the Second Division. So the Supporters' Club members said a very special "thank you" to manager Dave Smith by presenting him with an inscribed silver salver for his "outstanding service".

Smith, a former Rangers player, is also winner of this year's Scottish Second Division professional footballer award. Berwick topped the League for a good part of the season before being overtaken by Clyde and Raith Rovers who won promotion.

Rovers who won promotion.

IN his 16 years with Manchester City, Mike Doyle, recently transferred to Stoke City, played under seven managers . . . Les McDowell, Harry Poyser, Joe Mercer, Malcolm Allison, Johnny Hart, Ron Saunders and Tony Book. His boss is now Alan Durban

### NAMESAKES

IT'S rare for two League clubs to be managed simultaneously by two unrelated men of the same name, but both Fulham and Bristol Rovers have Bobby Campbell in charge and Stan Anderson, Doncaster Rovers' chief, has a namesake who is assistant-manager at Dumbarton.

EUROPEAN Champions Liverpool will visit Dublin before the start of next season. The opposition will be a League of Ireland selection.

Dundalk also hope to have a game against The Reds in return for the trio they sent to Anfield recently.

Other First Division clubs due in Eire are . . Derby County, who promised Bohemians a visit when they signed Gerry Ryan . . and Manchester United, the most popular English club in the Emerald Isle.

Home Farm hope United will play

Home Farm hope United will play an exhibition game as part of the amateur club's Golden Jubilee celebrations

FORMER Aberdeen manager Billy McNeill, now in charge of Celtic, received a £250 cheque from Mackinlay's Scotch Whisky after being voted Scotland's "Football Personality of the Year".

### DISAPPOINTED

EVEN though Johnny Giles was disappointed at not qualifying for the World Cup Finals in Argentina, he proved recently he is not taking it too seriously.

At a function for his club's Player of the Year, Johnny Fullam, the Eire boss duly obliged with a song... "Don't Cry For Me Argentina".

### **RUGBY FAN**

PHIL DWYER, one of the stars of the Welsh soccer side, was very nearly lost to

rugby.

He loved rugby as a boy and once played in front of 45,000 fans in a

seven-a-side game in Cardiff.
Phil soon put his faith in soccer and won honours as a schoolboy for Wales

and also as an amateur and professional youth.

His great asset at soccer is his versatility. He scored the Welsh goal against England in this year's British Championship when played as an out-and-out striker. But he actually signed for Cardiff as a right-back. He has also played in midfield for the Ninian Park club.

### RELAXING

**BRISTOL CITY star Norman Hunter is** relaxing this summer, recovering from the Achilles tendon operation he had at the end of the season

But it won't be all rest for Norman. He plans to train two or three times a week during the break to ensure he's fully prepared for the start of the new season on August 19th.

CHESTER, who finished fifth in the Third Division table edged their way into Football League record books. They are only the third club in the 90 year history of the League competition

to have drawn 22 games.

Sharing the distinction with them are Tranmere Rovers, who did so in 1970-71 and Aldershot, who reached the 22 mark the following season.

QUEEN'S PARK are touring Canada this summer for the first time in their history. They fly out from Prestwick on July 7 and return on July 30 after playing ten games in Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Halifax, St John's and the French Islands. Hampden coach Joe Gilroy, who is taking 17 players, says: "It will be ideal preparation for the new season."

HOPING for better luck next season . . . Aston Villa "crocks" Alex Cropley (broken leg, left) and Tommy Craig (cartilage).



### SHOOT PELE RECORD COMPETITION

Answers to the competition questions in our 22nd April issue were: 1 — 1957; 2 — Santos, 1975; 3 — Shirt number 10. The following 25 entrants, senders of the first correct entries checked, each receive a Pele

Glenn Adamson, Easterside; David Glenn Adamson, Easterside; David John Allan, Stanley; Andrew Barber, Beeston; Roy Campbell, Wembley; Stephen Cochrane, Hartlepool; Sean Conroy, Ennis; Andrew James Darling, Kelso; Andrew Delbridge, Newquay; Santo Farranto, Manchester; James Fraser Harris, Scone; Shaughan Mastine Beale, Lenny Mushae Hosking, Poole; Jenny Hughes, Salisbury; Trevor Jones, Tavistock; John Joseph Kane, Coventry; Sandy Learmonth, North Berwick; John McGann, Ennis; Graham Mountford, Sunderland; Paul Gerard O'Hare, Belfast; Jimmy Page, Edenbridge; John Perkins, Crowborough; Anne Robinson, Waterlooville; Kevin Stackhouse, Cannock; David Toothill, Bingley; Michael Tunnicliffe, Mirfield; Mark Woolcott, Rochester.

Each of the following 6 runners-up receives a Cosmos T-shirt: Peter Armstrong, Southport; David Frost, Manchester; John Grange, King's Lynn; Andrew Hall, Brighton; Andrew Watson, Beverley; Michael Williams, Greenford.



### MORE BUYS

THE reason so many Americans have been willing to splash out cash to buy players on a permanent basis this year, is because the era of the "loaned" player may be over.

Next year, the NASL is hoping to introduce a 36 game season which will stretch into late September, and English clubs for a

into late September, and English clubs for a start, won't be keen on letting players go for

start, won't be keen on tetring players go for that length of time.

Look out for more panic buying from clubs as they realise they may no longer be able to get the most of their players on a summer "working" holiday.

### **Glover quits** Rowdies

LENNY GLOVER, the former Leicester City player, has decided to quit Tampa Bay Rowdies. He played for Tampa for two seasons after leaving City, but now says he does not like the idea of uprooting his family who still live in Leicester. He said: "I seem to be working for the tax

man, but it means at the moment I cannot play for any club until next year because I

am still registered with Tampa." Last season Glover played for Southern League Kettering Town.



### \*\*\*\*

### LUCKY

CALIFORNIA SURF goalkeeper Dave Jokerst has an odd lucky charm . . . a stuffed skunk!

The toy was given to him at a pre-season exhibition game and now he takes great care placing it in the net before the match.

The superstitious Jokerst says: "I even wear the same tie-ups for my socks every game. And now the skunk goes

everywhere I go."
We've heard of 'keepers having stinkers, but that's ridiculous.

### UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE

FRANZ Beckenbauer has reached the top by being a perfectionist both on and off the field. His skills as the world's most complete defender are well-known and now, with the Cosmos, his graceful style is winning him even

As you will know if you've heard Franz interviewed, his English is very good . . . but, he thinks, not good enough.

He has enrolled in an intensive English course with Berlitz, along with team-mates Carlos Alberto (Brazil) and

Erol Yashin (Turkey).
This prompted O Globo, the Brazilian newspaper, to publish this amusing



"In which language do the Cosmos players understand themselves? "Dollars . . .!"

### \*\*\*\*

### Indoor League

IT now seems certain the NASL's Indoor League will get started this winter. An indoor format has been approved by 18

of the League's clubs and the other six are expected to give it the nod, too.

The League will run from December 15 to February 15, with the play-offs in early March. It will be a ten game season with East, West, and Central Distinctions.

### \* \* \* \* \* #

### "Six Lights"

WASHINGTON DIPLOMATS' South African winger Andries Maseko is known as "Six Lights".

He apparently got the name after scoring six goals for a club in South Africa, where they flash the scorer's name up in lights after a goal.

### \*\*\*\*

STILL in Washington, one of their play-

ers has made the Transatlantic crossing in reverse for a change.

He is forward Mike Lester, who has been sold outright to Fourth Division Grimsby Town.

### \*\*\*\*

### Cosmopolitan

IT would be hard to find a more cosmopolitan attack than boasted by

Their front four are Pampos Papadopoulos of Greece, Manuel Velasquez of Spain, Ivair Perreira of Brazil and Vanco Balevski of

Yugoslavia. Fortunately, they don't have to talk when one of them scores a goal. They use the international language of COVENTRY'S GARY GILLESPIE -

### the lad who has already made football history

AT 17 Gary Gillespie made foot-ball history by becoming the youngest player to captain a Scottish League team. He also had the shock of his short life when he realised what a wanted man he

Gillespie was leading Falkirk in the Scottish Second Division and attracting rave notices with his cool, calculating approach to the game.

Scouts South of the border flocked to watch the stylish centreback. Falkirk, needing money, agreed to sell him and Gillespie was in the fortunate position of being able to choose his new employers.

He spent a week at Coventry
City — and was sold on the place. Gordon Milne parted with £45,000 and agreed to pay another £30,000 when Gillespie had played

ten first team games.

Unfortunately, after just five reserve team matches last season Gillespie tore knee ligaments at Everton, and now he faces the fight to get fit for the new term.

"It can't come soon enough for me," he says. "I made the right decision. Coventry are a great club, and apart from the injury, everything has been very enjoyable."

There is no doubt that Gillespie has enormous potential. "He can become a great player," says Gordon Milne. "The lad has such a mature head. Obviously he has a lot to learn about our game, but the potential is incredibly exciting.

Gillespie has already noticed the major difference between Scottish and English football: "You don't get as much time on the ball down here, and the refereeing is much tougher."

He joins a number of talented Scots at Coventry — Tommy Hutchison, Jim Blyth and Ian Wal-

lace are three.

Gillespie will no doubt be hoping to make the same impression as Wallace, Milne's last "steal" from Scotland. He joined The Sky Blues from Dumbarton in August, 1976 for £70,000.

Wallace finished last season as the club's top scorer, won full international honours for Scotland, playing for the first time against Bulgaria at Hampden Park in February, and scored an incredibly well-taken goal in the same game — all in his first full campaign.

The fact that there are so many Scots at Coventry made me feel at home," says Gillespie. "Everyone has made me welcome."

For a 17 - year - old the size of Gillespie's fee is remarkable. At that age most youngsters are dreaming about turning professional.

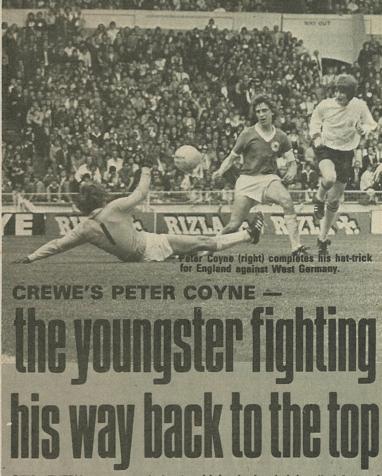
But the fee does not worry Gillespie: "It gave me a lot of confidence. I was flattered to think that Coventry were prepared to pay so much for me."

it was that competent attitude that persuaded Falkirk boss Billy Little to appoint Gillespie captain. His original choice was Mark Clougherty. He lost his form, was dropped, later sold to Clyde, and Gillespie took over.

"I wasn't over-awed," he says. "More surprised. I never had any problems with the players. They accepted me — and a rollicking if they needed one!"

But it's all changed now. Gilles-

pie is a small fish in a very big pool, learning, enjoying himself. The name — Gary Gillespie — is one to watch out for.



dream to play for his country at schoolboy level. Only a few realise

that dream.

Crewe's 19 - year - old, fair-haired striker Peter Coyne is one of the privileged youngsters to pull on the white jersey for England at

"I will always remember one game in particular," says Peter. "It was against West Germany in June, 1974, at Wembley. I felt really proud playing on one of the world's most famous pitches.

"I even managed to score a hat-trick in England's 4-0 victory. It really was one of the most memorable days of my life."

At the time Peter was on the Manchester United books as an

apprentice and great things were expected from him.

But, after a short spell at Old Trafford the bright lights were soon to be darkened when the club decided to release him. Peter

recalls:
"I only made two first team appearances for United in the 1975-76 season and both were away from home at Leicester and Aston Villa. I even managed to score at Leicester."

Like many prospects, Coyne was rejected before given a real opportunity to show his true ability.

"United didn't give me a chance to prove myself. The two games I did play in was just enough to give me some experience of life at top

'United didn't even tell me the reason why they were releasing

No offers came Peter's way, so it meant finding a job and playing part-time football with a non-league side.
"Soon after leaving Old Trafford

I joined a local club called Aston. I kept giving 100 per cent and play-

ing my normal game hoping some-one might notice me.
"I never gave up hope of being rediscovered, dreading playing non-League football for the rest of

"I was beginning to think I may have missed the boat when my coach John Barnes rang Crewe manager, Harry Gregg to recom-mend me.

"I've got a lot to thank John for. He felt I should be playing full-time professional football. The next thing I knew I was on the playing staff at Crewe."

Although Manchester-born Peter wasn't joining a leading club like United he was just pleased to

be back in the game.

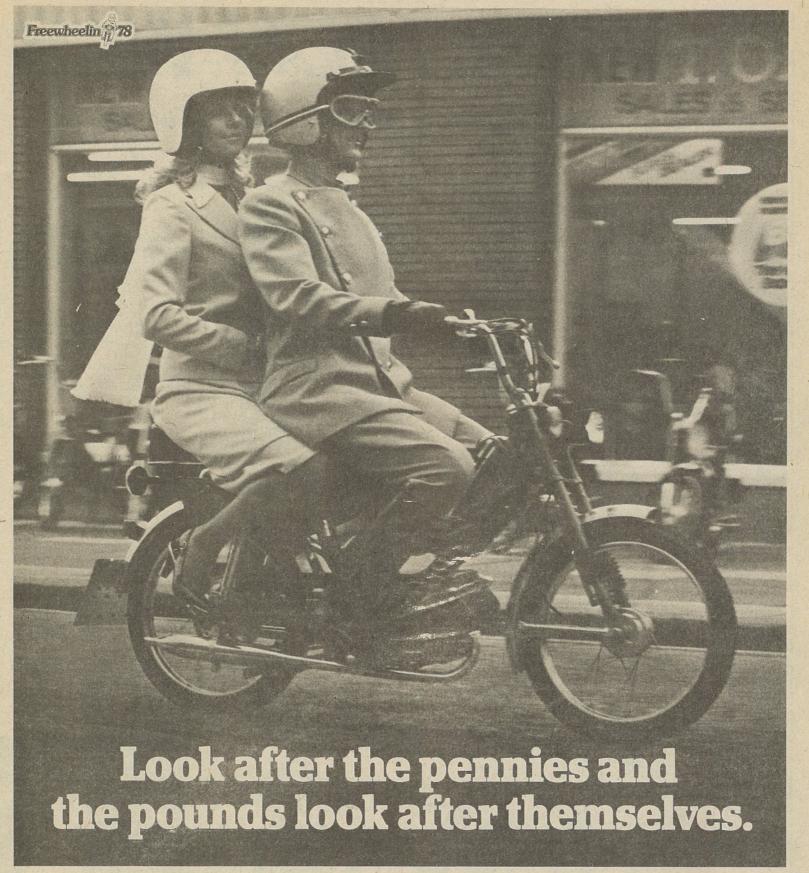
"Obviously Crewe haven't got the resources they have at Old Trafford, but the atmosphere and set-up is second - to - none for a Fourth Division club.

"They're a great bunch of lads at Gresty Road and we have the foundations of a very good team for the future. A lot of credit for that must go down to the efforts of our boss Harry Gregg, who was United's goalkeeper for many years and a survivor of the Munich air dieaster."

So at the age of 19, Peter has already experienced the thrill of playing for England and the shock

of rejection by Manchester United. But Peter Coyne hasn't given up hope of playing in the First Divi-sion again and going on to full international honours.

He's already proved he has courage and determination. The fact Peter hit 16 League goals for Crewe last season is also an indica-tion that he has the ability and



We're not suggesting that everyone should have a chauffeur driven moped. In fact, mopeds perform far better without passengers.

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ag Institute of Motorcycling

N this feature we discuss the relative successes of transfers of a similar nature made during last season.

With over 200 players changing clubs, some for vast amounts, for next-to-nothing or in exchange for other players there are some interesting comparisons to be drawn.

# WHICH WAS

### 'KEEPERS

PAUL BRADSHAW (Blackburn to Wolves) JOHN MIDDLETON (Forest to Derby)



HE two young men vying for number one spot in Ron Green-wood's England Under-21 plans.

Both moved in the early stages of last season, Bradshaw (above) up a Division, Middleton (below) across the Midlands.

As heir apparent to Ray Clemence and Peter Shitton they have

a good many pairs of eyes on them, and are in the most vulnerable positions on the pitch as well, of course.

Bradshaw made a hesitant start at Molineux, then grew in confidence, but was not helped towards the end of the term by the poor form of colleagues around him.

Middleton started the season as Brian Clough's first choice but the arrival of Peter Shilton inevitably led to his departure from the City Ground, and he missed out on one of the fairy stories of the season. He did not make an entirely perfect start with County, and like Brad-shaw suffered from the inconsistency of more senior players in front of him.



### FULL-BACKS

STEVE BUCKLEY (Luton to Derby) AND BRENDON BATSON (Cambridge to West Brom)



PERHAPS it's a little early to give a fair verdict on either of

these young players who have jumped into the First Division limelight.

Buckley (above), brother of Walsall's free-scoring Alan, became a firm favourite with Luton fans in the same of the same and the his 100-odd appearances for the Kenilworth Road club, and the early signs are he will be one of Tommy Docherty's better buys at the Baseball Ground.

Batson (below) is having a second stab at life at the top. He was a promising young defender with Arsenal, until the rarity of opportunities decided him to move on to

Cambridge.
Ron Atkinson's success at Abbey Stadium, and his ultimate move to Albion provided a new launching pad for Brendon's career, and he is probably seen as eventual successor to Paddy Mulligan in the right-back spot at The Hawthorns.



### STOPPERS

KEITH OSGOOD (Spurs to Coventry) PAUL HART (Blackpool to Leeds Utd.)



SGOOD'S (above) move was One of the lightning transactions of all time. Dropped one day, he was virtually transferred the

Coventry manager Gordon Coventry manager Gordon Milne, determined to pursue his bright new style of play, employing only three basic defenders, knew he needed a player of Osgood's power to make it work. Without pretending that everything was fine and dandy he was relatively happy with Osgood's performances last season. Hart (below) had the unenviable task of stenning into the colossal

task of stepping into the colossal boots vacated by Gordon McQueen at Elland Road.

Such was the popularity of the big Scot and so vital was his presence to Jimmy Armfield's side, that Paul will probably take some time to win over the fans.

He made an effective start in a

new pairing alongside Trevor Cherry, but the best of him will be seen next season.



### MIDFIELD

DON MASSON (Q.P.R. to Derby) AND **BRUCE RIOCH** (Everton to Derby)

THIS really is an interesting one. Tommy Docherty brought together two of the men who were vital cogs in the Scotland side that reached Argentina for the World Cup Finals. Yet contrary to expec-tations neither man reproduced his best form.

Rioch (below, right) had widely-quoted differences of opinion with his manager, and was sent-off twice in a very frustrating season.

Masson (below, left) was also well below his peak, so much so people talked of both Rioch and Masson thinking too much of

**BRIAN FLYNN** (Burnley to Leeds Utd.) AND JOHN MAHONEY (Stoke to Middlesbrough)

wo Welsh internationals who left Second Division strugglers to get their careers back on the right track.

Both realised that languishing in the lower reaches of the Second Division could be detrimental to their futures at both club and international level.

Brian Flynn (above, right) settled quickly at Elland Road, and had one remarkable side-effect, his arrival sparking the often languid Tony Currie into dynamic consis-

Mahoney (right) was not as immediately influential, but his qualities gradually won over the discerning Ayresome Park public and he had a marked effect on the team during its run to the Sixth Round of the Cup.



# THE BETTER BUY?







### **WINGERS**

TERRY CURRAN (Forest to Derby) AND LEIGHTON JAMES (Derby to Q.P.R.)



T'S amazing how many times the same clubs have been involved in deals, and Tommy Docherty must feel like an auctioneer at times.

He's entitled to feel he got the best from these deals, though Curran (above) appears to have one deficiency — scoring goals. Just one from the former Doncaster and Forest player is a paltry return, but he added width to the side along with Gerry Ryan from Bohemians on the other flank.

Leighton (below) continues to perturb us. He has so much natural ability, and a ferocious shot to go with his competitive nature, but he doesn't always get involved in the way he should.

Frank Sibley dropped him and the Welshman hasn't exactly set Loftus Road alight.



### **STRIKERS**

ALAN SUNDERLAND
(Wolves to Arsenal)
AND

DAVID CROSS
(West Brom to West Ham)

THESE two chaps left the Midlands for the capital with very different jobs to do — but the same aim to score goals.

same aim to score goals.

Alan (right, top) proved one of the season's best buys and he fitted into Arsenal's glove beautifully, helping The Gunners to last season's F.A. Cup Final.

fitted into Arsenai's glove beautifully, helping The Gunners to last season's F.A. Cup Final.

David (right, bottom) wasn't such an instant hit at Upton Park, and his ten goals, including a hatrick against Ipswich, couldn't prevent West Ham from being relegated to the Second Division.

JOE ROYLE
(Man. City to Bristol City)
AND
JOE JORDAN
(Leeds Utd. to Man. Utd.)

TWO muscle men bought to give a bit of added steel to attacks who weren't producing the goods.

Royle (below, right) had given way to the challenge of Brian Kidd and Mike Channon at City, but he took a long time to make up his mind before moving west.

He began with an extraordinary four-goal burst against Middlesbrough, and while he clearly couldn't keep up that phenomenal form he still did a very useful job for Alan Dicks in 1977-78.

Jordan (bottom) also took a long time to move but this was due to

Jordan (bottom) also took a long time to move, but this was due to his determination to stick it out waiting for the best terms. These were offered him by Britain's wealthiest club, and after a slow start he began to repay Dave Sexton's investment.

There was other interesting and comparable moves like young men from lower Divisions trying their hand at the top

hand at the top.

Bill Ashcroft did better with Middlesbrough following his move from Wrexham, than luckless Lammie Robertson who joined Leicester from Exeter.

Down in the Third Division Dixie
McNeil's short trip from Hereford
to Wrexham proved perhaps the
most spectacular success of all,
and there were other all-Third Division moves like David Kemp
(Portsmouth-Carlisle), Brian
Hornsby (Shrewsbury-Sheffield
Wednesday) and Chic Bates
(Shrewsbury-Swindon) which look
like working out well.

One final comparison — watch out for two young men who share the same name making their mark in the near future. Paul McGee of Queens Park Rangers and Mark McGhee, of Newcastle, both showed distinct promise and plenty of talent in their first season of League football.









BILL Dodgin is a name that rarely leaps at you from the soccer headlines, even though the tall, grey-haired, poker-backed man who answers to it, has, either as coach or manager, piloted a League club to promotion six times during the past 12 years. Back in 1966, the Cockneys of

Cold Blow Lane roared their earthy tributes to Dodgin's coaching skills as he helped Millwall climb out of the Third Division.

A year later, it was the turn of Queens Park Rangers' fans to salute Bill's know-how when the Loftus Road idols waved the Third Division goodbye and moved upstairs to join their South London

Twelve months on, this former Arsenal centre-half again submit-ted to the adulation of Shepherd's Bush as Rangers strode into the First Division.

The remarkable success story of Bill Dodgin has continued throughout the Seventies. He took Fulham to Second Division promotion in 1971, spurred ailing Northampton back to the Third in 1976, and last season supplied the Griffin Park loyalists with a considerable helping of honey when he sent The Bees winging into the same Division.

As the little West London team, who, in the Thirties, had moved confidently among the First Division giants, began turning the preseason optimistic clichés into a more realistic and encouraging promotion bid, and the gaps on the terraces showed signs of shrinking, the talk was of Dodgin and what he had done for other

clubs, and other players.

Now, the magic has worked again, though the quiet man who has made Brentford buzz, would prefer to call it commonsense.

"I've always believed," says Bill, "that, to achieve anything in this game, as a coach or a manager, you've got to treat players like adults, and it's essential that the atmosphere, not only in the dression. By the season's finish we were in 15th place, and had lost only two of our last 18 games.
"Last season, we just carried on

from there, improving all the time.
I believe in skilful, attacking football, using fast, clever wingers in

the way they're supposed to be used — along the flanks.

"The fans will always turn up to see good football and plenty of goals. This is what we provided last season as we settled in among

ing Brentford into the First Division, but it's a racing certainty you won't find any of them at Millwall, Loftus Road, Fulham, or Northampton!

# It's hone

sing-room, but right through the

club, is a happy one.
"When Steve Phillips, Carlton, and Barry Tucker asked if they could continue living in the Northampton area when they signed for Brentford, I readily

They come in twice a week, and the rest of the time they train on their own, back in Northampton. I agreed to a similar arrangement with goalkeeper Len Bond who lives in Bristol. Their appreciation showed in the high standard of their performances through the season.

"When I got the Brentford job, in September, 1976, the club was at the wrong end of the Fourth Divi-

\*\*\*\*\*\*

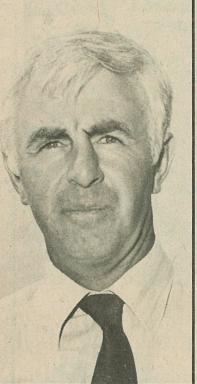
promotion pacemakers, and the response throughout the area was a mounting enthusiasm that had the crowds flocking back to Griffin Park.

"My ultimate aim is to make this club great again, to steer it back into the First Division. I'm excited

by the potential the team has.
"Perhaps Brentford's promotion
success last season didn't create much of a stir beyond Griffin Park, but to everyone connected with this splendidly-organised club, directors, players, back-room staff, and a loyal, enthusiastic support, it's the first step on the road back."

There is no doubt, people inside

soccer who will smile indulgently at the thought of Bill Dodgin lead-





This week Everton's **DAVE THOMAS** selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



"On behalf of my newspaper I'd like you to accept this new award acclaiming you as 'The Professional Fouler of the Year' "



88

"I think we may assume that the spots you see in front of the eyes is caused by watching too much World Cup football on T.V."

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*



"So I won't be blinded by your dazzling display that's going to save us from relegation"

### RESULTS...SCORERS...TEAM LINE-UPS



Mick Mills skippered Ipswich to their first ever F.A. Cup Final win.

### MONDAY, MAY 1

### FIRST DIVISION

LIVERPOOL (1) 4 (Dalglish 3, Neal pen.)

MAN. CITY (0) 0 44,528
Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Hansen, Thompson, Kennedy, Hughes, Dalglish, Case, Fairclough, McDermott, Souness.
Man. C: Corrigan; Clements, Donachie, Booth, Watson, Owen, Channon, Bell, Kidd, Hostford

### THIRD DIVISION

PLYMOUTH (4) 6 (Harrison, Taylor 2, Perrin,

Foster, Fear) BRADFORD C (0) 0

Plymouth: Hodge; Harrison, Bason, James,

Foster, Horswill, Johnson, Taylor, Binney, Fear, Perrin. Bradford: Downsborough; Podd, Wood, Johnson (Wright), Baines, Middleton, Gal-lagher, Dolan, Cooke, McNiven, Hutchins.

WAISAII (2) 3 (Austin 2 Dennehy) ROTHERHAM (0) 1 (Gwyther)

Walsall: Kearns; Macken, Caswell, Harrison, Serella, Evans, Dennehy, Bates, Austin, Buck-

Rotherham: Rotherham: McAlister; Pugh, Breckin, Rhodes, Stancliffe, Green, Finney, Phillips, Gwyther, Goodfellow, Crawford.

PETERBOROUGH 0 Wrexham: Davies; Evans, Dwyer, Davis, Roberts, Griffiths, Shinton, Sutton, Lyons, Hill,

Peterborough: Waugh; Hindley, Hughes, Doyle, Turner, Ross, Slough, McEwan, Butlin, Anderson, Robson.

### **FOURTH DIVISION**

ALDERSHOT 0 Rochdale: Shyne; Hallows, Hart, Boslem, Scott, Bannon, Tarbuck, Oliver, Owen, Price,

Aldershot: Johnson; Dixon, Howitt, Long-horn, Youlden, Wooler, Crosby, Brodie, Needham, Dungworth, Hooper

### U.E.F.A. UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP

ENGLAND (0) 1 (Sims)
YUGOSLAVIA (0) 1 (Halihodzic)

FUGUSLAVIA (0) 1 (Halihodzic) at Maine Road 24,423
England: Corrigan; Daniel, Peach, Hoddle, Sims, Futcher (P), Williams, Reeves, Bertschin (Jones), Reid, Barnes.
Yugoelavia: Stojanovic; Vujkov, Hrstic, Zajec, Stojkovic, Bogdan, Krmpotic, Bosniak, Halihodzic, Klincarski, Desnica.
(Yugoslavia won 3-2 on aggregate)

### TUESDAY, MAY 2

### FIRST DIVISION

CHELSEA (2) 3 (Hollins o.g., Droy, Lewington)

Chelsea: Bonetti; Locke, Harris, Britton Droy, Wicks, Lewington, Swain, Garner, Wil

kins (R), Walker.

Q.P.R.: Richardson; Clement, Gillard, Hollins, Howe, Shanks, Goddard, McGee (Williams), James, Bowles, Givens.

W.B.A. (2) 2 (Brown (T), Hughes)
NOTTM FOREST (2) 2 (Bowyer, Robertson pen.) 23,612 W.B.A.: Godden; Baston, Statham, Brown

W.B.A.: Godden; bascon, Stattam, Brown (T), Wile, Robertson, Cantello, Robson, Regis, Hughes, Cunningham. Nottm. F: Shilton; Anderson, Barrett, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, O'Neill, Gemmill, Withe, Bowyer, Robertson.

WOLVES (2) 3 (Richards, Eves, Rafferty)
ASTON VILLA (1) 1 (Carrodus) 30,644
Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daley,
Hazell, McAlle, Patching, Berry, Richards, Raf-

ferty, Eves. Villa: Rimmer; Gidman, Smith, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Deehan, Little, Gray (Gregory), Cowans, Carrodus.

### SECOND DIVISION

MILLWALL (1) 1 (Seasman) MANSFIELD (0) 0

Milwall: Johns; Donaldson, Moore, Allen, Kitchener, Hazell, Lee, Hamilton, Seasman Kitchener, Hazell, Lee, Hamilton, Seasman, Walker, Pearson (Mehmet).

Mansfield: Arnold; Pate, Foster (B), Foster (C), Saxby, Bird, Miller, Martin, Syrett, Hodgson Goodwin.

### SCOTTISH PREMIER

CLYDEBANK (1) 2 (Gervaise, Miller)
DUNDEE UTD. (0) 0 1,000
Clydebank: Gallacher; Gourlay, Abel, Fallon,
McCormack, Houston, Geighan, Gervaise, Miller, McNaughton, Colgan.
Dundee U: Graham; Robinson, Stark, Fleming, Hegarty, Narey, Sturrock, Wallace, Bourke,
Holt, Addison.

### **WEDNESDAY, MAY 3**

### SECOND DIVISION

CARDIFF (0) 2 (Buchanan, Went) NOTTS CO (1) 1 (O'Brien)

NOTTS CO (1) 1 (O'Brien) 9,528 Cardiff: Healey; Dwyer, Pethard, Campbell, Pontin, Larmour, Grapes (Thomas), Bishop, Evans, Went, Buchanan. Notts. Co.: McManus; Richards, O'Brien,

Chapman, Stubbs, Hunt, Carter, McVay, Bradd, Benjamin, Vinter.

10.217 **CHARLTON 0** Orient: Jackson; Fisher, Roffey, Grealish oadley, Roeder, Banjo, Gray, Bennett,

Hoadley, Roeder, Banjo, Gray, Bennett, Kitchen, Mayo. Charlton: Wood; Berry, Warman, Tydeman, Shipperley, Dugdale, Brisley, Gritt, Robinson, Peacock, McAuley.

### THIRD DIVISION

CHESTERFIELD (1) 3 (Cottam, Fern, Green)
SWINDON (1) 1 (Prophett) 3,428
Chesterfield: Tingay; Tartt, Burton, Pollard,
Cottam, O'Neill, Cammack, Fern, Green,
Kowalski, Dearden.
Swindon: Allan) McLaughlin, Trollope, Kam-

ara, Aizelwood, Prophett, Moss, Carter, Guth-rie, McHale, Bates.

**ROTHERHAM 0** 

Colchester: Walker; Cook, Wignall, Leslie Packer, Dowman, Foley, Gough, Williams, Allinson, Dyer. Rotherham: McAlister; Pugh, Breckin, For-rest, Stancliffe (Young), Green, Finney, Phillips, Gwyther, Goodfellow, Crawford.

SHEFF. WED. (2) 2 (Hornsby pen., Tynan) WREXHAM (0) 1 (Cartwright) 15,

WHEXHAM (0) 1 (Cartwright) 15,/00
Sheff. W: Turner; Walden, Grant, Rushbury,
Smith, Mullen, Wylde, Porterfield (Leman),
Tynan, Johnson, Hornsby,
Wrexham: Niedziwecki; Hill, Kenworthy,
Davis, Ceglelski, Griffiths, Williams (Buxton),
Sutton, Shinton, Dwyer, Cartwright.

### THURSDAY, MAY 4

### FIRST DIVISION

Liverpool: Clemence: Neal, Hansen, Thomp-

son, Kennedy, Hughes, Dalglish, Case, Fair-clough, McDermott, Souness. Nottm F: Shilton; Anderson, Barrett, McGovern, Lloyd, Clark, O'Neil, Gemmill, Withe, Bowyer, Robertson.

### FRIDAY, MAY 5

### **FIRST DIVISION**

Chelsea: Bonetti; Hay, Harris, Britton, Droy, Wicks, Lewington, Swain, Langley, Wilkins (R),

Man. C: Corrigan; Clements, Donachie, Booth, Watson, Owen, Barnes, Channon, Kidd,

### SATURDAY, MAY 6

### F.A. CUP FINAL

ARSENAL (0) 0

ARSENAL (0) 0
IPSWICH (0) 1 (Osborne) at Wembley 100,000
Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Nelson, Price,
O'Leary, Young, Brady (Rix), Sunderland, Macdonald, Stapleton, Hudson.
Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Mills, Talbot,
Hunter, Beattle, Osborne (Lambert), Wark,
Mariner, Geddis, Woods.



Alex MacDonald scored Rangers first goal in side's 2-1 Scottish Cup victory over Aberdeen



Liverpool captain Emlyn Hughes proudly holds aloft the European Cup after beating F.C. Bruges of Belgium.

### SCOTTISH CUP FINAL

ABERDEEN (0) 1 (Ritchie)
RANGERS (1) 2 (MacDonald, Johnstone)

at Hampden 61,563 Aberdeen: Clark; Kennedy, Ritchie, McMas-

Aberdeen: Clark; Kennedy, Ritchie, McMaster, Garner, Miller, Sullivan, Fleming (Scanlon), Harper, Jarvie, Davidson.
Rangers: McCoy; Jardine, Greig, Forsyth, Jackson, MacDonald, McLean, Russell, Johnstone, Smith, Cooper (Watson).

### TUESDAY, MAY 9

### **FIRST DIVISION**

DERBY (1) 3 (Hill, Chesters, Curran) ARSENAL (0) 0

Derby: Middleton; Langan, Buckley, Rioch, McFarland, Todd, Curran, Powell, Chesters, George, Hill.

Arsenal: Jennings; Price, Matthews, Harvey, O'Leary, Walford, Heeley, Rix, Sunderland, Stapleton, Hudson.

WOLVES (2) 2 (Rafferty 2)

WOLVES (2) 2 (Harrerty 2) 25,994 (pswich: Cooper; Burley, Mills, Talbot, Osman, Butcher, Osborne (Parkin), Wark, Mariner, Geddis, Woods. Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daley, Hazell, McAlle, Patching, Berry, Richards, Rafferty. Eves (Clarke).

### SECOND DIVISION

ORIENT (1) 1 (Kitchen) Cardiff: Healey; Dwyer, Pethard, Campbell, Pontin, Larmour, Grapes, Bishop, Evans, Went,

Buchanan Orient: Jackson; Fisher, Roffey, Grealish, oadley, Roeder, Clarke, Gray, Bennett, Hoadley, Roed Kitchen, Mayo.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

### **EUROPEAN CUP FINAL**

LIVERPOOL (0) 1 (Dalglish)
FC BRUGES (0) 0
Liverpool: Clemence; Neal; Hansen, Thompson, Kennedy, Hughes, Dalglish, Case (Heighway), Fairclough, McDermott, Souness.
Bruges: Jensen; Bastijns, Maes (Volders),
Cools, Krieger, Leekens, Vandereycken, De
Cubber, Simoen, Ku (Sanders), Sorensen.

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end of the road for two Old Firm managers that's what!

I'll come back to the happenings at Parkhead, but first might I say how sad I am to see Jock Wallace leave Rangers. Leicester City are a lucky club getting big Jock.

He went out with his head held

high and at the end of the day had

suppose Greigy realised that a while

That is not the problem with Billy McNeill, the new supremo at Parkhead. You know, even ten years ago it must have been the most certain long-term bet in the business that Greig and McNeill would be the Old Firm bosses one day.

regrets at leaving Aberdeen. If I had said 'no' now I might not have been given the opportunity again. It was not an easy decision to make. The job with Celtic is a difficult one, no doubt about that. But it is a challenge I am prepared to face."

Billy McNeill never lost a challenge in all the time I knew him at Celtic Park. I don't see him break-

ing the habit now.

And I am glad too, to see that John Clark, sweeper in the Lisbon Lions team and former reserve-team coach with Celtic, is coming home too. Billy insisted John came with him... so it is no wonder the twosome are being christened the Clough and Taylor of Scotland!

The former Lisbon Lions have learned their lessons well since they hung up their boots. Billy quit after the Scottish Cup win of 1975 and John finished his playing career with Morton before returning to Parkhead as reserve team coach.

He has only been away for a season and it was John who successfully coached youngsters like George McCluskey to first team glory

Celtic's own personal Old Firm will do well, who knows, as well as the legend they succeed.

I have left any mention of Jock Stein's part in all of this till the end of my column.

If I had started to talk about the Big Man and his part in the stories of Celtic and Danny McGrain I would have no space to mention anything else.

Instead, allow me to borrow the words of Bill Shankly who wandered into the Celtic dressing-room after the European Cup victory of 1967, strolled up to our manager and said: "Jock, you're immortal!"

See you in two weeks . . .



ALL ME the Eddie Mercx of Parkhead! I am hoping to put the spoke in my injury worries once and for all by pedal-powering my way back to peak fitness. Thus the highly unusual sight of

bearded D. McGrain Esq. biking his daily way from home in the suburbs of Glasgow to Celtic Park and back again.

You haven't seen anything like it since the last Tour de France. But they tell me the big bike-ride did the trick for Bertie Auld, a former Celt, now back in 1968 when his future was in jeopardy following a knee operation.

I can guarantee I will be back in action at the beginning of the season — football not cycling — because I think most of my worries are over.

So far I haven't run or kicked a ball and I am 8-10lbs overweight, but my injured ankle is setting okay and I am on schedule for a return to action right at the beginning of 78-

My six weeks in sunny Spain did the trick . . . although having said that the recent weather in Glasgow hasn't done me any harm either.

That last week in May brought red-hot weather . . . but the headlines weren't much cooler.

What kind of stories make Scotland's participation in the World Cup Finals second class news? The

except a major European trophy . . . and yet he was coach when they won the Cup-Winners' Cup in 1972.

I suppose he might have left exactly a year ago when he was taking stick from a few quarters, but Jock Wallace being Jock Wallace stuck to his guns and came back to lift the treble . . . Scottish Cup, Premier Division and League Cup.

At the end of it all he left lbrox in a blaze of glory. Big Jock was a well-liked man, even by his greatest

I know Jock has a lot of friends in the Midlands from his West Brom days. I'm sure he is going to make a lot more.

It is best wishes too, to Jock's successor at Ibrox, fellow SHOOT columnist John Greig.

For obvious reasons I can't wish him all the success, but I have no doubt that Greigy will be a big hit as a boss.

He has taken over the job which I suppose everyone in football assumed would be his one day anyway . . . although perhaps not quite so soon.

If he is going to have any prob-lems it may well be the fact that he is going straight from Rangers player to Rangers boss.

Suddenly he is going to be the manager to guys who only weeks ago were his team-mates. It is a difficult one to overcome, but I



Mind you, you would have had to have a Rolls-Royce crystal ball to forecast they would both take over in one amazing week.

At the Celtic end of things there could hardly have been a better successor to Jock Stein than Billy McNeill.

Billy hasn't the problem of John Greig in-as-much as he has been away from Celtic for three years. Only Paul Wilson, Bobby Lennox and myself played with Caesar for any length of time. It will be easier





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# FOCUS ON THE STATE OF THE STATE

**FULL NAME: Richard McNeil** BIRTHPLACE: Melton
Mowbray, Leicestershire
BIRTHDATE: 16th January, 1947
HEIGHT: 15t 10ins
WEIGHT: 12st UPS: Leicester PREVIOUS CLUBS: Leicester City, Exeter, Corby, Northampton, Lincoln, Hereford and Wrexham MARRIED: Yes, to Danuta Zofia CHILDREN: Richard, Leslie CAR: Austin Princess
FAVOURITE PLAYER: None
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: None MOST DIFFICULT
OPPONENT: Kevin Beattie
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: v. Arsenal in the F.A. Cup Sixth Round, 1977-78
BIGGEST THRILL: Promotion to
Second Division with Hereford, **BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:** Relegation the following season BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Tunisia FAVOURITE FOOD: Scampi MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Shooting, cricket and golf
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: None **FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: Rockford File and sports** programmes FAVOURITE SINGERS: Frank Sinatra and Diana Ross FAVOURITE ACTORS/ACTRESSES: Joan
Collins, Natalie Wood, Burt
Lancaster and Kirk Douglas
BEST FRIEND: Graham Fuller
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON
CAREER: My father
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER:
Being injured **Being injured** INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None PERSONAL AMBITION: To be PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To get promoted to the First Division IF YOU WEREN'T A
FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO
YOU THINK YOU'D BE? Something in public relations WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Film star David Niven





## FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT FOR KEMPES

SPANISH club Valencia have secured the services of Argentinian international striker Mario Kempes for a further five striker Mario Kempes for a further five years, with a contract guaranteeing him £110,000 a season, PLUS a monthly salary and bonuses. Kempes, 23, has been top scorer in Spain for the last two seasons, with 24 and 28 goals respectively, plus 10 more in six Spanish Cup games.

Still in Valencia, the club are spending £3½ million on modernising their Luis Casanova stadium, confident of being named as one of the sub-centres for the 1982 World Cup. The expansion work will increase the stadium's capacity from 47,000 to 70,000.

# REFWALKSOFF PROTES

**DUTCH referee Frans Derks made** one of the most sensational farewell performances ever seen when he took charge of his last game, PEC against Vlaardingen. Derks, 47 is a real showman

whistler. Rarely far away from controversy, he has had more brushes with authority than he

cares to remember.

The match was vital as the winners would win promotion to the First Division. It was the ideal "stage" for Derks to get his point over: why should the F.A. tell him when to retire . . . why couldn't he make up his own mind?

In fact, Derks DID make up his own mind. After 85 minutes, with PEC winning 3-0, he blew his whistle for the last time and

walked off the field. Fans invaded the pitch and the PEC players were chaired shoulder-high in celebration. Then . . . word got back that

Derks hadn't ended the game, simply made a protest to the F.A.

A linesman took over as referee when the pitch had been cleared and eventually the game ended

Of course, Derks won his "battle". What could the authorities do? They could hardly ban a referee who had just retired!

Derks has been in the headlines many times before. He once made a record with international midfielder Wim van Hanegem - it was a flop.

Last year he refereed a game with a microphone hidden in his top pocket. Unknown to the players and supporters, Derks was being filmed by a T.V. crew for a special show and every word was being monitored.

This triggered off a Watergate-like scandal. Now Derks has gone, but he's certainly not been forgotten!

DUTCH club AZ '67 have formally protested to U.E.F.A. about the treatment their players received during a recent (not-so) friendly in Malaga against the local Second Division side. The trouble began when Santi floored AZ's Horst with a horrific tackle, and it looked as though the Dutchman had a broken leg. His AZ

though the Dutchman had a broken leg. HIS A2 team-mates descended on Santi, but the Spaniard turned out to be a tougher customer than they thought, and he floored Dutch World Cup hope Jan Peters with a

tremendous uppercut.

AZ discreetly decided to leave the field, and Peters went to hospital with a broken nose

## GOAL-SHY WONDERS

HERE are the Goal-Shy Wonders of Europe . . . teams who ended the season with fewer goals than points . . . teams who obviously found goalscoring very difficult.

Austria Belgium None None

Cernomore Varna, P. Bladoevgrad, Lokomotiv Sofia Bulgaria

Spartak Trnava Union Berlin, Sachsenring Zwickau Czechoslovakia **East Germany** 

England None None France Greece

Panionios, Apollon Holland None Hungary Italy None Torino, Inter Milan,

Bologna, Genova Luxembourg None

Lech Poznan, Lodz SK, Slask Wrocław, Szombierski, P. Bytom, Poland Wisla Cracow

Belenenses, Riopele **Portugal** Rumania **Tirgoviste** Scotland Racing Santander Spain None Glatasaray, Switzerland Turkey

Samsunspor, Adanaspor, Boluspor None Osijek, Radnicki Nis **West Germany** Yugoslavia

AN amazing story has come in from the province of Goias in Brazil. The local team wasn't doing too well against Aruana and when the visitors were awarded a penalty things looked even blacker. A player called Francisco Dos Santos stepped up to take the kick, but before he could shoot . . he was shot! A local policeman had got so angry that he raised his machine-gun and pumped five bullets into the penalty-taker's leg.

## Krankl tops

HANS KRANKL was the leading goalscorer in Europe last season. According to figures supplied by Adidas, the Austrian international led the way with 41 goals in 36 games, an excellent average.

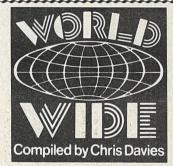
Here are the top 20 strikers:

Games		als
Kranki (Rapid)	36	41
Bianchi (Paris S.G.)	38	37
Geels (Ajax)	34	32
Latchford (Everton)	42	30
Bjekovic (Nice)	38	29
Onnis (Monaco)	38	29
Kempes (Valencia)	34	28
Francis (Birmingham)	42	25
Kist (AZ 67)	34	25
G. Muller (Bayern)	34	24
D. Muller (Cologne)	34	24
Santillana (Real Madrid)	34	24
O'Connor (Bohemians)	30	24
Fazekas (Újpest)		24
Lacombe (Lyon)	38	24
Rossi (Lanerossi)	30	23
Johnstone (Rangers)		23
A. Hansen (Odense)		23
Gomes (Porto)		22
Gemmrich (Strasbourg)		21

APPARENTLY Boca Juniors controversial manager Juan Carlos
Lorenzo has fallen out with Chilean striker
Carlos Reinoso who plays for Mexican
Champions America. Lorenzo told the
Press that America were "rubbish" after Boca had beaten them in the first-leg of the Interamerican Cup Final, and this didn't

Interamerican Cup Final, and this didn't go down too well with Reinoso.

So when he scored America's late winner in the play-off, he raced over to the Boca bench and "dedicated" the goal to Lorenzo. The incensed Argentinian is reported to have vowed that, if Reinoso ever sets foot in Argentina "he"ll never leave the country



THE COPA Libertadores game be-tween the two Chilean representatives, Palestino and Union Espanola was watched by about 40,000 fans in San-tiago's National Stadium. But the clubs were amazed when the F.A. stated that the crowd was just under 35,000 and paid them about 12% less than they'd been expecting. The clubs began an investigation and soon discovered that an amazing

soon discovered that an amazing number of people have passes to get in free to matches in the National Stadium.

There are 1,715 free seats for the Ministry of Sport; 1,067 for the F.A.; 650 for the armed forces; 207 for various ministers; 979 for other government officials; 297 for ex-players and directors; 250 for the Press and TV; and 1,400 for "young players and stadium vendors".

So while Chilean clubs are complaining about low gates and insufficient revenue, a total of 5,565 people can watch every match free!

ATLÉTICO Madrid's Argentinian star, Ruben Ayala, doesn't feel his reputation has been tarnished by not being recal-led to play in the World Cup. In fact he's demanding a new contract "for what I'm worth". Ayala reckons he's worth a signing-on fee of £68,000 a year!



THE secret of Rainer Bonhof's free-kicks is simple. The West German star explains: "After every training session I stay behind to practise from all angles and all distances." Ray Clemence will testify that in this respect practice has made Rainer almost perfect!

### THE PAIN IN SPAIN

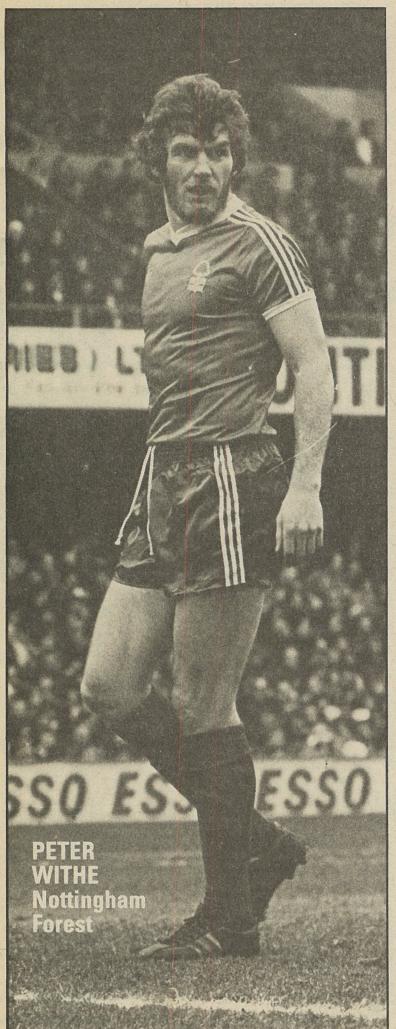
SALAMANCA'S Paraguayan striker Roberto Cino ended up with a broken nose after a fight with a group of fans in a local restaurant. The fans weren't at all happy with Salamanca's 0-3 home defeat by Athletic Bilbao, and the striker ended up well and truly struck!

Sevilla's veteran defender Paco Gallego was also in the wars. He assaulted a radio reporter for "criticising his performance" in Sevilla's League game against Las Palmas. Gallego was sent-off in the ninth minute . . PASQUALE Bertolino, 45-year-old manager of Division Four Marsala in Italy, attacked and seriously injured a referee after a game. All he got was a one year jail sentence — suspended.

**BOCA Juniors' new star, midfielder** Horacio Salinas, has an unusual problem. He can't sleep on the night after matches! 

WITH the football season almost ended, World Wide will be taking a rest for a few weeks, but I'll be back with all the soccer news in the very near future. 

SOUTH America's top defender Elias Figueroa had to be substituted in the second-half of Palestino's Chilean League match against Green Cross. It was the first time that the veteran defender had failed to complete a match for 14



# 'ARE DUNDEE UNITED THE GREAT PREDICTABLES?'

F Partick Thistle are known as 'The Great Unpredictables' of Scottish soccer, then Dundee United must surely qualify as 'The

**Great Predictables'** 

Great Predictables'...

They are a team of all talents guided by a knowledgeable manager in Jim McLean, but, for some strange reason or another, they always seem to flop when the crunch comes. And it's becoming all too predictable these days.

Critics talk about the quality of

Critics talk about the quality of the Tannadice team and it is easy to get enthusiastic about the abil-

ity of some of the players.
PAUL HEGARTY is a centre-half
of the highest calibre. His talent in
the air is exceptional while his speed and strength in the tackle is

DAVE NAREY is only 21, but he is one of Scotland's finest sweepers. He has built a good understanding with Hegarty in the heart of the defence and no striker can look forward to facing this duo.

GRAEME PAYNE is another supremely talented youngster. He may be on the slight side, but his skills are breathtaking as he patrols the midfield teasing and tor-

menting other sides.

PAUL STURROCK may have been a disappointment last season when his form faded, but, before that, he had proved his class. He can play on either the right or left-wing, and can finish expensely.

wing, and can finish strongly.

Four great young players, the nucleus of any side seeking hon-ours. Or they should be.

#### Magnificent

Somehow, though, Dundee United just do not put it together when it matters most. They flatter to deceive. On paper they have a magnificent side, but games are not won on paper. They are won on grass... and that is where they disappoint their already dwindling set of fans.

United promised to make the breakthrough last season. McLean

was demanding consistency from his side. He didn't get it. In the U.E.F.A. Cup, their stay was brief and painful. A shattering experience, in fact. They played lowly-rated, little known, entirely amateurish Bold Klub, of Copenhagen, and were severely hagen, and were severely punished in Denmark after winning the first-leg 1-0 at Tannadice. Bold Klub got bolder as the game

went on and eventually won 3-0. In the Scottish Cup, they reached the Semi-Finals where they faced Rangers. They were desperate to do well. The last time they had reached Hampden was in the Scottish Cup Final where they played the other half of the Old Firm Celtic, five years previously and had been beaten 3-0.



Now they wanted to show they could rise to the occasion. To be fair, they had the majority of play in the first-half as the Ibrox club struggled to find some sort of rhythm.

However, United couldn't put the ball in the net and there's not much point in dictating play when you can't finish things. It's like James Hunt preparing to take part in a Grand Prix without petrol in

his car.
Goals from Derek Johnstone and John Greig put an end to that challenge. Really, no one should have been surprised by the eventual outcome ... Dundee United didn't score a single goal in any of their Premier Division matches against Rangers last season! It's a harsh statistic that seems to sum

up Dundee United.
They claimed third place in the Division well behind Rangers and Aberdeen and will be appearing in the U.E.F.A. Cup next season. However, they had a unique record

in the League . . . they were the only team not to beat defending Champions Celtic!

It's remarkable, but Rangers, Aberdeen, Hibs, Partick Thistle, Motherwell, St. Mirren, Ayr United and even Clydebank all registered League victories over Celtic, but United had to be the odd man out.

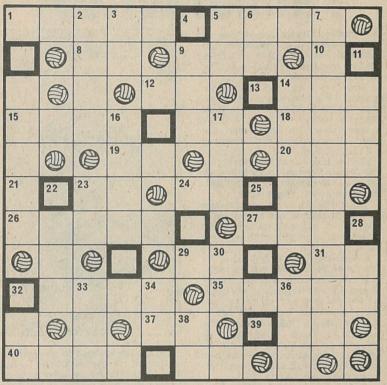
In fact, in four games, they scored only ONE goal.

All is not gloomy for United, though. Like we said earlier they have some great talent at their disposal and Jim McLean has worked hard in an attempt to bring

honours to his club.

Maybe the REAL Dundee United will stand up next season . . .

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a West Bromwich Albion player. Answers on page 45.



#### ACROSS:-

- (1) Tottenham Hotspur striker. (5 & 5)
- Les Str--g of Fulham Neil Whatm --- of Bolton.
- lan Bri-t-n of Chelsea.
- (12) Exclamation needed to complete Jack -s-urst of Sunderland
- (13) A bird from four letters found in St. Andrews.
- (15) A player can be penalised for this.
  (18) Ba---ew Park (East Fife). Reverse the omissions for a plant.
- Li-- Brady of Arsenal.
- (20)Annoy or irritate.
- (21) Animal from Millwall nickname.
- Possessed from the omissions in Ma-sfi-I-T--n
- Road Ground of Peterborough
- P--inmo-- (Torquay United). "Spoken from the missing letters."
- Recr---ion Park, Alloa.
- Behold to complete -ut-n Town. Derek —, West Ham striker.

- (35) Sloping sharply. (37) Mick Ferg -- on, Coventry City striker.
- The-h--, Halifax Town's ground.
- Colin —, Norwich City midfielder.

#### DOWN:-

- (1) Steve -, Manchester United midfielder.
- Trevor —, Everton midfield player.
- Paul Mar--er of Ipswich Town. Elton —, chairman of Watford. Willie M--gan of Bolton
- Wanderers
- (6) -castle United from St. James' Park.
- Wolves midfield player. (5 & 5)
  --ford U-iversit- (F.A. Cup winners
  1874). Kinds of quartz from the
- omissions (12) It pays off if a striker has a good
- B--stol Ro---s, The Pirates. Only the 'keeper is allowed to — the ball.
- Gerry -, Bristol City midfield player.
- (22) Ken-lw-r-h Ro-d (Luton) needs a
- Gordon C-wa-s of Aston Villa. Number of clubs in the current
- **English First Division whose names** start with the letter "D".
- County, from Meadow Lane ground.
- (28)Barry -- wel - (Coventry). The omissions reversed. Mickey W-I-h of Blackpool.
- Roger -- n-bury, Norwich City
- keeper. The tibia is a bone in it.
- Emlyn H-gh-- (Liverpool). Institute legal proceedings from the missing letters.
- (36) Stuart P---son of Manchester United.
- Mirren F.C. from Love Street, Scotland.

A PART from personal problems at my former club, Manchester United, and losing my place — temporarily — in the full England side, have many good memories of the 1977-78 season.

Obviously the most exciting achievement was the League Cup and Championship double of Nottingham Forest, in their first season back in the top grade.

Like most people in the game I expected Forest to blow up around Christmas, when the going usually gets tough and a club is only as strong as its reserves.

I remember once discussing the

and goalkeeper Peter Shilton, who as Peter Taylor has said, is worth 20 goals a season to them.

Brian Clough is also a manager with courage . . . courage to go out and strengthen the team whenever

If a better keeper than Shilton came on the market then I'm sure Cloughie would go for him. Yes, he's that determined to keep a win-

Liverpool ran Forest very close for my best team of the season.

For a long while it seemed they would end the term with no trophy ... and then they beat Bruges to

Action from England's 2-0 defeat in Italy in November, 1976.



merits of Forest with some of the United lads in a hotel before an away match, and we all agreed they lacked the necessary strength in depth to survive at the top for very

How wrong we were. Missing Cup-tied stars such as Peter Shilton, Archie Gemmell and Needham, Forest went out and beat Liverpool to win the League Cup for the first time.

Then they maintained their grip at the head of the First Division table, building a commanding lead which they held until the end.

Forest's two main assets last term were their tremendous confidence and the fact they were an unknown quantity to other First Division clubs.

Like Manchester United in the season after winning promotion in 1974-75, Forest shook the country with a different, adventurous brand of football.

I suppose their real test will come next season, but I think Forest will pass it again with flying colours.

For me the Team of the Year, with Brian Clough, the Manager of the Year, has only just started to win honours. They are going to get more successful.

Forest are a side with the right blend of youth and experience.



retain the European Cup.

But more important than that to many Reds fans ... they finally finished above Everton in the table.

Many critics reckoned Liverpool's performance against Bruges, when they became the first British side to retain the European Cup, was nothing like their usual exhilarating form.

Maybe The Reds weren't at their most devastating against a team that didn't seem to want to play, but that wasn't really the vital issue. They won . . . that's what this game is all about. WINNING.

I wish Britain would stop being a nation of knockers. Let's start to give our teams their rightful praise when they pull off a fantastic achievement.

When Bayern Munich beat Leeds in the 1975 European Cup Final in Paris I wasn't all that impressed with



# 'STOP KNOCKING OUR WINNERS'

the Germans' performance, but they weren't condemned by the Press in West Germany or the rest of the Continent.

Why is it we only seem to like

At least Ipswich Town won the F.A. Cup in style, beating Arsenal at Wembley by a bigger margin than Roger Osborne's goal.

Most of the country rejoiced in Town's victory, a morale-boosting reward for all their endeavour and good football over the past five

Defeat at Wembley after so much disappointment over the years when Ipswich promised so much, could well have had a bad effect on manager Bobby Robson.

Another pleasing factor about last season was England's continued progress under manager Ron Greenwood. And what a way to end the term ... beating Scotland at Hampden to win the British Championship.

Of course, there's still a long way to go and a great deal of work to be done, but ENGLAND ARE VERY MUCH ON THE WAY BACK.

Naturally I'm still choked at our failure to qualify for Argentina and my own exclusion from the full team.

People reckon England lost their World Cup chance in Luxembourg when we should have scored more goals.

Whereas I'm of the opinion England's dismal performance against Italy in Rome in November, 1976 was the main reason we're not out in Argentina.

If Don Revie's team could have held Italy to a draw, England would have been in the World Cup Finals. Let's be honest, England didn't compete that afternoon.

Nothing wrong with the way we played against Italy at Wembley last November, though. England won 2-0 and it could quite easily have been by five goals.

We also gave fine performances against Brazil and Hungary at Wembley to complete a good first international season for Ron Greenwood.

For me 1977-78 was a season of mixed fortunes.

Manchester United's failure to get among the trophy contenders — my transfer — and relegated from the England team to the B squad.

Apart from my move to Derby County the only bright spot for me playing-wise was my goalscoring.

playing-wise was my goalscoring.

I topped the 19 mark, which isn't a bad total for a winger. Let's hope I can beat that figure for Derby next season.

Trouble on the field is also on the increase, but I'll be commenting on that in a couple of weeks' time.

By the way, thanks to all those Man. United and Derby fans who've written to me recently.

Before I left for the England B tour one of the girl secretaries at the Baseball Ground said there must be around 500 letters waiting for me.

I'll read them all when I return from the England B tour next week. Promise.

Cheers for now . . .

Sed Hill

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Liverpool's Cup
1974 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Wonderful Wolves!
1973 F.A. CUP FINAL
Sunderland's Cup
1973 LEAGUE CUP FINAL 1973 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Spurs v. Norwich
1972 F.A. CUP FINAL
Leeds v. Arsenal
1972 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Salute to Stokel
1971 F.A. CUP FINAL
Arsenal v. Liverpool
1971 EURO CUP WINNERS
Chelsea v. R. Madrid
1971 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Spurs v. Aston Villa
1970 F.A. CUP FINAL
Chelsea's Cup
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1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 1	
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1968 WBA 1, Everton 0	
1967 Spurs 2, Chelsea 1	
1966 Everton 3, Sheff. Wed. 2	
1965 Liverpool 2, Leeds 1	
1964 West Ham 3, Preston 2	
1963 Man. Utd 3, Leicester 1	
1962 Spurs 3, Burnley 1	
1960 Wolves 3, Blackburn 0	
1959 Nott'ham F. 2, Luton 1	
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1960 R. Madrid 7, Eintracht 3 200ft/400f	t	
EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS		
1963 Spurs 5, At. Madrid 1	ft	
1965 West Ham 2, TSV Munich 0 200	ft	
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*1977 Aston V. 3, Everton 2 200f	t	
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*1975 Aston Villa 1, Norwich 0 100ft		
*1974 Wolves 2, Man. City 1 100ft		
1973 Spurs 1, Norwich 0 100ft		
1972 Stoke 2, Chelsea 1		
1971 Spurs 2, Aston V. 0 50ft		
1967 Q.P.R. 3, W.B.A. 2	t	
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**'HAPPY' HARRY HASLAM IS** 

SHEFFIELD is a proud place these days. Its belching black factory chimneys once earned it the unkindly reputation of "the floor of hell" but, after six and a half million pounds expense and 13 years of battle against the grime, it boasts that it is now the cleanest industrial city in Europe.

Business is booming. Thousands of people from all parts of the world pour into the Steel City each year for conferences and, at Sheffield United the directors intend keeping in step with the city's progress.

The club sits in a prime spot, a mere stroll from the city centre, and chairman John Hassall and his board have, in the past four months, made the appointments that should bring in the first class football entertainment

football entertainment.

They have sprinkled five year contracts around so new manager Harry Haslam and his assistants can build the team properly.

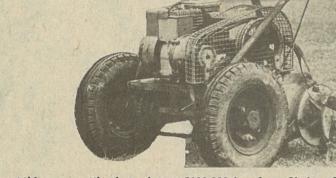
Now in his mid-50s, Haslam recognises the challenge at Sheffield could be the highlight of his career and he is putting everything into the job in his own inimitable way — which means with a grin as wide as the High Street and jokey ad-libs which make interviews and Press conferences so different from the "inquisition sessions" too often held up and down the country.

A full-back with Manchester United in 1938/39, after the War he played for Brighton and Orient before managing non-League clubs Eastbourne, Barry and Tunbridge Wells (nine years).

bridge Wells (nine years).
Chief-scout duties for Fulham and Luton came next. His eventual managership of Luton earned him acclaim from all quarters. His discovery of players and astuteness in the players' market reduced the club's debts by £500,000.

Looking back, he said: "The

Smiling Harry Haslam (left) and one of his assistants Danny Bergara getting ready for the new season.



nicest thing was getting Luton into the First Division. It wasn't a big stay, but it was an achievement with a small staff."

With a forgettable see-saw League performance last term behind them, the Sheffield United supporters will be wondering what is in store for them next season. They may have to see it through wire fences after a foolish ground invasion in the last minutes of the last game of the season.

The minority's action stopped Haslam sending the real supporters home with words of encouragement. He could have broadcast over the club's loudspeaker system for instance about building up the reserves' strength.

"I thought it advisable to get

or thought it advisable to get some young players in straight away rather than try and get them at the start of the new season," he told SHOOT.

"While we had enough matches to play the youngsters in I tried them in the second, third and fourth teams . . . we had to get some standard."

Some new faces, including

£100,000 buy from Chelsea Steve Finnieston, can be expected in the first team next term but Haslam was quick to praise the current squad.

"They did a good job . . . they were on a hiding to nothing and sometimes, trying too hard, they slipped up. They need the Summer break to kindle everything.

"I'm contracted here," he went on, "to try and bring stability into the team's play . . . to generally recreate a few things . . . to breed a winning attitude and work from there. And I believe with the lads on the staff and by adding some new talent to the squad we'll be able to come out and have a go!"

In the short time he has been in office Haslam has made some important back-room signings which illustrate his thinking and explains why those in his regular presence are so optimistic again.

George McCabe, the former F.A.
Cup Final and World Cup referee,
has been recruited along with
Argentinian Oscar Arce to fertilise
the youth set-up at the club.

Their credentials — McCabe as a most successful schoolboy talent

spotter, Arce for his influence on Millwall's young players — will mean that before long the first team players will have to play well to keep their positions.

By the age of 16 Arce had won three Uruguayan international youth caps and played himself into Racing Club of Montevideo's first team in the nation's First Division.

His eldest brother gained 30 full international caps and a World Cup medal.

Bergara left Montevideo at the age of 20 (he joined Real Majorca FC in Spain's First Division) to learn to know Europe and to get experience.

Married to Janet he trained with Luton after leaving Spain to get fit and, after a couple of weeks played in a friendly game with them after which Haslam said to him "why don't you take up coaching and have a go in this country?" That started a four-year partnership with Haslam.

It's about time that Sheffield United emerged once more from football's shadows. The Haslam-Bergara duo have the right qualifications to do the job.











T WOULD be nice to think I'm worth almost a quarter of a million, but I know I am far short of that. It's an unrealistic figure.

Those are the words of Motherwell sweeper Gregor Stevens, the talented youngster who played so well and consistently last season. He was quoted as being in the £240,000 bracket when Aston Villa came North to watch him in action.

That price scared off Villa, who might have been thinking of a bid somewhere in the £100,000 region. But Motherwell were giving away opportunity at stardom.

no bargains and Villa, like they did with £110,000 Andy Gray from Dundee United, didn't get the Queen's Park winning the Euro-

Park for a massive fee, West Brom will be kicking themselves. He went to The Hawthorns as a young hopeful, but was allowed to return to Scotland.

The rejection was only a temporary setback, though. Stevens joined a junior club and it was only a matter of time before someone took notice of his very special skills.

Motherwell were the first club along, were impressed immediately and Stevens was on his way to Fir Park and a second opportunity at stardom.

The chance of him being granted another free transfer is as likely as

# I'm NOT worth

opportunity of buying another cutprice superstar.

Stevens is a remarkably mature youngster and his feet are staying firmly on the ground, but it could be he is undervaluing himself.

He played for the Scottish

He played for the Scottish League team that drew 1-1 with the Italian 'B' side in Verona at the end of the season and interna-tional manager Ally MacLeod broke one of his golden rules to single out Stevens for special praise.

"Everyone played a part, but what about Gregor Stevens?" exclaimed Ally. "He didn't put a foot wrong all night. He did every-

thing that was asked of him.
"He looked cool and composed and nothing the Italians did rattled or upset him. I thought he was brilliant. I was very impressed. And I think the Italians must have been, too!"

Stevens is one of the players around whom manager Roger Hynd will be building his team for the new term. With him in the rearguard, Hynd can be satisfied his defence is well protected.

He is in the classic mould of a sweeper. Quick and lithe on his toes, good and strong in the air, Stevens also reads play superbly. But his talents aren't purely confined to defence.

The Motherwell star likes to break into attack when he sees the opportunity. In fact, if Stevens did not prefer his role in the back-four he could probably make a success of being a midfielder.

"He's got the right attitude," says the rugged Hynd, who earned the reputation as a player who never took prisoners in his career as a dominating centre-half with Rangers, Crystal Palace, Birming-ham City and Walsall.

"The boy wants to win all the time and that is good enough for me. You get nothing for being second.

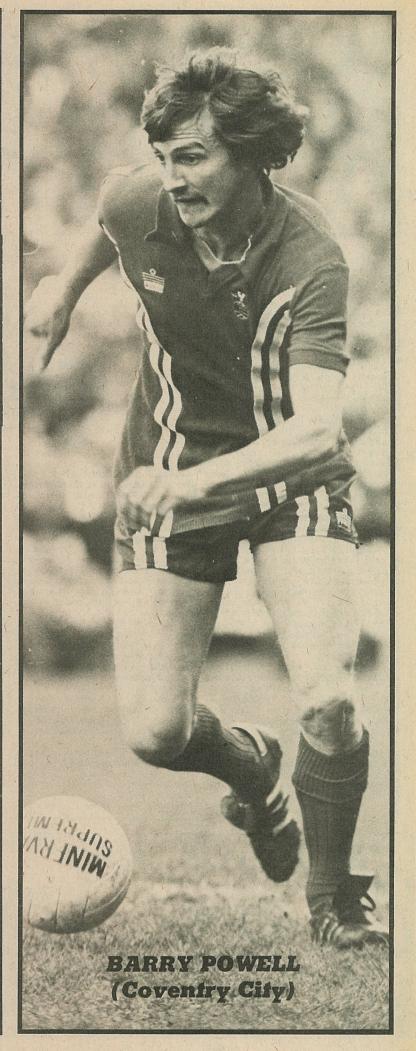
If Stevens is allowed to leave Fir

pean Cup, but Stevens hasn't lost

any of his determination.

He has forced Ally MacLeod into recognising that talent and next season he will be going all out to break into the top flight on the international front. Then, possibly, Stevens might believe those soccer judges who rate him in the £240,000 class.









- 8. Which Scottish clubs would you support if you followed the ones listed? (a) The Maroons, (b) Spiders, (c) The Buddies and (d) Diamonds?
- 9. Chris Nicholl (far left) of Southampton is a full Northern Ireland international. Did he (a) play for the Under-23 side, (b) make his debut in the full side against Sweden, Switzerland or Spain in October, 1973, 1974 or 1975 and (c) can you name his previous three League clubs?
- 10. Len Bond kept goal regularly for which side that clinched promotion from the Fourth Division last season?

1. Steve Daley, 2. Bury, 3. Colchester, 4. Allan Clarke to Barnsley and Paul Reaney to Bradford City, 5. (a) 0-0, (b) Dave Watson, (c) it was his first in charge, 6. Joe Jordan and Derek Johnstone, 7. Morherwell, 8. (a) Hearts, (b) Gueen's Park, (c) St. Mirren, (d) Airdrie, 9. (a) No, (b) Sweden in 1974, (c) Halifax, Luton and Aston Villa. 10. Brentford **VICENSIA** 

### **GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS**

ACROSS:— (1) Chris Jones. (8) On. (9) Ore. (10) To. (12) Ah. (13) Wren. (15) Pushing. (18) Ivy. (19) Am. (20) Vex. (21) Lion. (24) Owned. (26) London. (27) Oral. (29) Eat. (31) Lo. (32) Hales. (35) Steep. (37) Us. (39) Say. (40) Suggett.

DOWN:— (1) Coppell. (2) Ross. (3) In. (4) John. (5) Or. (6) New. (7) Steve Daley. (11) Onyx. (12) Aim. (14) River. (16) Handle. (17) Gow. (22) Iota. (23) On. (24) One. (25) Notts. (28) Lop. (30) As. (32) Hes. (33) Leg. (34) Sue. (36) Ear. (38) St.

Jumbled Name: WILLIE JOHNSTON.



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# Encouraging news from a great player at the end of his England days . . .

"LAST SEASON, Manchester City's finishing position among the leaders would have been rated as successful by many clubs - but at Maine Road it was not considered as anything spe-cial. We aim to do better next term, and I want to play my part."
The speaker was Manchester City's Mike Channon, talking about

City's Mike Channon, talking about his club's future prospects and reviewing the events of 1977-8.

Mike says: "It was a season that can only be described in one word—frustrating. But in a way it's a good thing Manchester City can set their sights high, and not be content just to be runners-up in any competition. Last term we failed in our expectations.

## **1'LL PUT MORE** THAN EVER BEFORE INTO MY GAME NEXT SEASON'-

MIKE CHANNON, MAN. CITY

"As for myself, I was out for three months with injuries, though I prefer not to make too much out of that. At the beginning, however, I was used at Maine Road as a target man which is not my ideal sort of game. Then later, there was a change and I roamed freely, playing off Brian Kidd, but still without scoring as regularly as I wished. "So there was a feeling of frustration for the team, the fans and

and ready for action with City when August comes along, Channon made the decision to miss the England "B" tour of the Far East. And it followed ten years of touring with England sides, during which he built for himself the reputation of being one of the most colourful attacking players in Britain.

Along with his flair, Mike had the driving ambition to win a First Division Championship medal — and he reckoned that after 12 years with Southampton, his chances of achieving his ambition were grow-ing slimmer.

"Time definitely wasn't on my side at Southampton, but when I decided to leave there was no illfeeling in my attitude to the club.
I'm pleased they won promotion
last season, and I've happy
memories of The Dell, having
made my debut for Southampton

"But I've never regretted leaving Saints, because I want to be at the top, and I believe Manchester



## And from one who has made a sensational recall to international duty

ENGLAND may have much to thank Ron Greenwood for, within the next few years.

The approach of the European Championship and then the qualifying stages for the 1982 World Cup, means Greenwood's new crusade within English international soccer will be given the per-

fect test over the next few years.
That test may be passed with flying colours, if Greenwood's initial success is anything to go by.

England, from the depths of depression in a miserable reign of Don Revie, have been lifted by the attacking ideas and philosophies of Greenwood. Truly, the man has provided a shining light in the darkness that was English international soccer.

No single player portrays better the change in outlook and attitudes since Greenwood took over, than Leeds midfield man Tony Currie.

Currie won just one cap under Revie — in a 1975 friendly match against Switzerland. His failure to implant in Revie's pattern of play, the style that has made him the player he is, meant Revie faded him out

But now Currie is back - drafted into the new England set-up by



## 1 WANT TO MAKE UP FOR DISAPPOINTMENTS'-

TONY CURRIE, LEEDS UNITED

Greenwood, that great believer in high quality skilful play.
Currie returned to the international fold with the experience of spells with both Ramsey and Revieregimes. And he says: "I've got to admit, Ron Greenwood's manaadmit, Hon Greenwood's mana-gership is the best of the three. I don't think Revie ever really got it together with England — he chop-ped and changed the side around far too often to get a settled one and that is what England

to aim for with England.
"I got only one chance under
Revie. He picked me to play
against Switzerland and told me I had to go out and work and work all the time. It's a horrible word, I don't like it. I ran and ran and ran, worked until I dropped — and hardly got a kick for the entire 90 minutes. I was phased out after

Currie advanced his claims for a recall with a series of consistent, hard working performances in the First Division with Leeds. He says:

"I felt I'd shown the consistency I needed to get back into the England set-up but the call hadn't come and I was a bit depressed.



"But then it arrived — for the match against Brazil — and I was surprised at that stage. I was too delighted and I found the set-up completely different from before. "Under Revie, the players were rather tied down; doing set things all the time. Now, we are so much more free to do what we like. I like it so much better the way it is now and I think Greenwood's methods have been proved by the results

have been proved by the results England have had recently. "It's hard in a way to describe exactly what Greenwood's style has done for the players. But we FEEL better, more responsible now and it's showing on the field in the matches."

Before that Switzerland game in 1975, Currie's previous England appearance was against Italy in 1973 . . . under Ramsey. "Those were the days of players like Colin Bell, Allan Clarke and Martin Peters," said Currie. "Bobby Charl-ton had just packed up and Bobby Moore was about to do so.

"But I feel two England caps in more than four years is a dreadful record. Of course I feel bitter about wasting those years in terms of international football.

"I would like to have been playing regularly for England through those years and it makes me fed up to think I've missed out. Maybe that's why I'm so happy to be back with England.

"It's magic just to be part of it all again and especially when things again and especially when things have picked up so much. Ron Greenwood is a great man to play for and I recken that's probably the reason England's results have been so much better lately — we all want to go and play and do well. Of course, we wanted to win before; you always do when you play football. But it was very different somehow." ferent somehow."

Now, Currie aims to stay in the England squad and become a regu-England squad and become a regular member for as long as possible. "I think I had a pretty good, consistent 1977-78 season," he said. "I thought I was unfairly labellad with a tag of being lazy for too long and maybe that held me back. But now, I'm hoping I can show people what I can really do on a regular basis.

"Ron Greenwood has brought stability to English international football. You've got to have a settled squad to do well, and the tests of the next few years will determine just how good we are now. I seeken we can pass those and I reckon we can pass those and hope I'm around to help out.

"I'm 28 now and the next four years are so important to me. I want to make up for all the disappointments and start doing things for England. I'm hopeful it will be a successful period for me and, more importantly, for the international side."

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